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PLO-JORDANIAN DIALOG RAISES ARGUMENTS AT PNC SESSION

JN181911 Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1830 GMT 18 Jan 79 JN

[Text] The Palestine National Council [PNC] today resumed its meetings in Damascus by holding a closed session in which the council discussed the political report submitted by the PLO leadership. The report was further discussed during a meeting this afternoon.

Some issues in the report created sharp arguments in the council, especially regarding the dialog between the PLO leadership and the Jordanian regime. The groups of the rejection front and several members of the council expressed their rejection of conducting such a dialog with the Jordanian regime.

PNC APPROVES ORGANIZATIONAL PROGRAM

JN181858 Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1800 GMT 18 Jan 79 JN

[Text] The Palestine National Council resumed its work this morning to complete the debate on the political and organizational programs. The council unanimously approved the organizational program, which is considered the short-term program of the Palestinian revolution. This program is as follows:

First, the revolutionary groups and various Palestinian national forces will be represented in the PLO institutions--headed by the Palestine National Council, the Central Council and the Executive Committee--on representative and democratic bases.

Second, the Palestinian leadership will be a collective leadership in that decisions will be the responsibility of everyone--whether in making or implementing them--and this leadership will be democratic in that the minority must respect the opinion of the majority in accordance with the political and organizational program and the decisions of the national councils.

Third, the PLO institutions and departments will be enabled to carry out fully the powers invested in them in accordance with the PLO's basic laws. The Executive Committee will form specialized higher councils in a representative manner. These councils will draw up plans and supervise their implementation by the PLO institutions, especially in the military, information and financial fields.

Fourth, the Executive Committee and the Central Council will be formed in accordance with the basic laws of the PLO and the decisions of the national councils.

Fifth, the new Executive Committee will, upon assuming power, draw up the necessary plans to implement the short-term program. It will also reorganize the PLO's departments with the view to employing competent and qualified personnel to insure the best performance of these departments.

New PLO Political Program

JN191613 Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 0542 GMT 19 Jan 79 JN

[Text of PLO political program approved unanimously by Palestine National Council at its 14th session in Damascus on 18 January--read by announcer]

[Text] The U.S. settlement of the Arab-Zionist conflict, which is epitomized in the Camp David agreements, constitutes crucial dangers to the Palestine question and the issue of Arab national liberation.

This settlement approves the continuation of the Zionist enemy's usurpation of the National Palestinian soil and ends the Palestinian people's inalienable right to their homeland of Palestine, their right to return to this homeland, and their right to self-determination and national independence in their land. The settlement results in the loss of other parts of the Arab land and bypasses the PLO, the leader of our people's national struggle and their sole legitimate representative, which speaks on their behalf and expresses their will.

These agreements constitute an act of agression against Palestinian, Arab and international rights. They pave the way for rightening the domination of imperialism and Zionism over the Arab and the African countries by using the Egyptian regime, within the framework of the alliance with imperialism and Zionism, as a tool to suppress the national Arab and African liberation movements.

Out of a realization of the dangers of the new conspiracy and its dimensions, our national responsibilities in the PLO, as the representative of all the groups and forces of the Palestinian people, make it incumbent on us to reject and repulse the new conspiratorial plan, and defend our people's revolution and their national inalienable rights in their homeland of Palestine.

The brave stand of our Palestinian masses inside and outside the occupied homeland and the stand of the masses of the Arab nation in rejecting the Camp David agreements and in proclaiming their determination to repulse this new conspiracy against our Arab nation and our people and their national inalienable rights, make us more determined to confront the conspiracy and more confident of its defeat. At the same time, we shoulder a big responsibility which we cannot fulfill except through a unified national and popular stand through the PLO.

In response to our people's will and the challenges facing us; out of a belief in the national unity of the PLO, the sole path of our victory; proceeding from the national Palestinian charter, the resolutions of the PNC sessions, the Tripoli unionist document among the groups of the Palestinian revolution, and our people's right to establish a democratic state on all their national soil; and in confrontation of this delicate and dangerous state of our people's struggle, we--the representative of all the groups of the revolution and the national Palestinian forces--proclaim the following:

On the Palestinian level

1. Adherence to the inalienable national rights of our people to their homeland of Palestine, including their right to return to this homeland, to determine their destiny on their land without any outside interference, and to establish their independent state on their national soil without any restriction or condition.

2. Defense of and adherence to the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of our people, as the leader of their national struggle and as their spokesman at all Arab and international forums; resistance against all attempts aimed at undermining, bypassing or circumventing the PLO, or creating substitutes or partner to it in representing our Palestinian people; adherence to the resolutions of the Arab summit conferences in Algiers and Rabat; and adherence to the UN resolutions, especially Resolutions 3236 and 3237, which affirm our inalienables national rights as well as Arab and international recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

3. Firm determination to continue and escalate armed struggle in all forms of political and popular struggle, particularly in the occupied land since it is the basic field of conflict against the Zionist enemy, so as to realize the national rights of the Palestinian people, rights which are not negotiable or bargainable.

4. Affirmation that the Palestine issue is the crux and essence of the Arab-Zionist conflict, and rejection of all resolutions, agreements and settlements which do not recognize, or which detract from, the inalienable rights of our people to their homeland of Palestine, including the right to return, to determine their destiny and to establish their independent national state. This includes especially Security Council Resolution 242.

5. Rejection of and resistance to the autonomy plan in the occupied homeland, which perpetuates Zionist colonialism of our occupied land and ignores our Palestinian people's rights.

6. Stressing the unity of our Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied homeland; stressing the unity of their representation by the PLO, as well as repulsing all attempts and schemes aimed at dividing our people or bypassing the PLO; and seeking to strengthen our people's struggle in the occupied land and to bolster their unity and steadfastness.

7. Strengthening the Palestinian national front in the occupied land, since it is an indivisible part of the PLO, and giving it all forms of political and financial support to enable it to mobilize the masses of our prople in the interior to confront the Zionist occupation, machinations and schemes against our people and their national inalienable rights.

8. Adherence to Palestine as the sole historical homeland of the Palestinian people and resisting all resettlement plans or plans for a substitute homeland, which are being proposed by the imperialist-Zionist enemy to liquidate the Palestinian issue, the national Palestinian struggle and the Palestinian people's rallying around their right to return.

On the Arab level:

1. Affirmation that the confrontation of the Camp David agreements and addendas and their results in the responsibility of all the Arab masses and their national and progressive forces in view of the fact that these agreements constitute crucial dangers to the issue of Arab struggle. The Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, and its central pivot of Syria and the PLO, is the basic foundation to confront the U.S.-Zionist settlement conspiracy.

2. Seeking to strengthen and consolidate the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and expand its scope to resist the imperialist and Zionist settlement schemes; adherence to the objective of liberation of the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories, and to the national inalienable rights of the Palestinian people; nonsquandering of the gains of these rights; and providing all forms of popular and financial support for the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, especially the PLO and Syria.

3. The PLO calls on all parties, movements and national and progressive forces in the Arab homeland to back and provide moral and material support for the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front. It also calls for solidarity and struggle to resist the imperialist-Zionist settlement schemes.

4. A--The PLO stresses its firm adherence to the unity, Arabism and independence of Lebanon, its respect for Lebanese sovereignty, and its commitment to the Cairo agreement and its supplements, which organize relations between the PLO and the Lebanese Government.

B--The PLO values the role the Lebanese people and their pan-Arab, national and progressive forces have played and still are playing in supporting and defending the struggle of the Palestinian people. The PLO expresses its pride in the cohesion between our Palestinian people and the Lebanese people and their pan-Arab, national and progressive forces in defending the Lebanese territories and the Palestinian resistance against the Zionist aggression, its designs and its local tools. The PLO stresses the need to continue and strengthen this cohesion.

5. A--The PLO affirms the special relationship between the fraternal Palestinian and Jordanian peoples, and its desire to continue the cohesion between the two fraternal peoples.

B--The PLO declares its adherence to the resolutions of the Arab summits in Algiers and Rabat, which confirm that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and also acknowledge the right of our people to establish their independent national state. The PLO considers the Jordanian regime's commitment to these resolutions, its rejection of the Camp David agreements and their results, its refusal to get involved in these agreements, and its enabling the PLO to exercise its struggle and popular responsibilities against the Zionist enemy as the basis governing the PLO's relations with the Jordanian regime.

6. The PLO stresses its right to exercise its struggle and responsibility on the Arab and pan-Arab levels, and in any Arab territory so as to liberate the occupied Palestinian territories.

7. The PLO declares that its positions and relations with any Arab regime will be determined by that regime's commitment to the Algiers and Rabat summit resolutions, by its rejection of the Camp David agreements and their supplements and results, and by its resistance to these agreements.

8. The PLO calls on all national and Arab forces, and on all friendly and national regimes to support the Egyptian people and their national movement to enable them to confront the As-Sadat plot and foil the Camp David agreements and their repercussions on the Egyptian people, their Arabism, and their history of struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

On the international level:

1. The role played by the United States against our Palestinian people and their national struggle, and against the Arab liberation movement and its aims of liberation and independence, whether through support to the Zionist entity or through its tools in the Arab region, constitutes blatant aggression against our people and their national cause. The PLO, in cohesion with all the groups of the Arab national liberation movement and the Arab progressive and national regimes, expresses its determination to resist U.S. policies, aims and practices in the region.

2. The PLO stresses the importance of its alliance with the socialist countries headed by the Soviet Union. This alliance is a national necessity to confront the U.S.-Zionist plots against the Palestinian cause and against the Arab national liberation movement and its achievements.

3. The PLO stresses the importance of its cooperation with the nonalined countries and the Islamic, African and friendly countries that support the PLO and its struggle to restore the national rights of the Palestinian people to return to their homeland, to self-determination and to establish their independent national state.

4. The PLO, as a national liberation movement, expresses its solidarity with other national liberation movements, especially in Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa. The PLO resolves to promote its militant relations with these movements because the struggle against imperialism, Zionism and racism is a common cause for all liberation and progressive forces.

5. The PLO declares its firm adherence to the achievements of the Palestinian struggle on the international level--achievements such as the broad international recognition of the PLO and the recognition of the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to their homeland of Palestine, and their right to return, to self-determination and to the establishment of their national independent state on their national soil. These achievements have been embodied in UN resolutions since 1974, particularly Resolutions 3236 and 3237. These resolutions affirm the right of the PLO to attend all meetings and conferences that discuss the Palestinian problem, and consider any dicussions or agreements concerning the Palestinian problem without the PLO's participation to be null and void.

PLO OFFICIAL VISUALIZES NEW PALESTINIAN STATE

DW181140 Mainz Domestic Television Service in German 2000 GMT 17 Jan 79 DW

[Correspondent Funk interview with Fatah deputy leader and member of the Palestine National Liberation Movement Abu Iyad in Damascus--date not given; recorded in Arabic, German translation superimposed]

[Text] [Question] You stated a few days ago that you would build Palestine on any piece of land that Israel will vacate. Will all Palestinians follow you on this course?

[Answer] The question concerning the size of the new Palestinian state is of secondary importance. Small or large--we shall see to that later. What alone is important to us is the fact that we realize Palestinian claims and rights, which for a long time have been trampled on by the Israelis.

All attempts at ignoring us have failed. Our existence is real. In the meantime, all people in the world have realized that the Palestinians cannot be absorbed by any other Arab country or eliminated through international treaties. This is the pure truth. I say that we will build our Palestinian state on the smallest piece of land that Israel will vacate. We believe that this alone can be an initial positive step toward solving our problems.

[Question] There are 4 million Palestinians in the world, 500,000 of them in Lebanon. Do you believe that establishing a new Palestinian state will solve the refugee problem? Do you believe that the Palestinians living in Lebanese camps will join that new state?

[Answer] That question forces me first of all to state that we fundamentally reject the idea of having Palestinian autonomy under Israeli control and military pressure. Such a solution will not produce a government or state for us.

We are not interested in its size but in its international viability. We want sovereignty and citizenship for the Palestinians. Our new state should be able to shelter 1 million people, maybe more; but all Palestinians will know that this state exists now and that they have a homeland they can call their own. Once we have that state, every Palestinian abroad will be treated like a foreigner with internationally uncontested rights and duties. Then the refugees in the camps can decide whether they want togo to Palestine or reside in their host country.

PLO'S ABU MAYZAR ON RELATIONS WITH IRAQ, JORDAN

LD181127 Baghdad ATH-THAWRAH in Arabic 11 Jan 79 p 6 LD

[Interview with by 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, PLO Executive Committee member and official spokesman, to Hasan al-Kashif in Baghdad "last week"]

[Excerpts] ATH-THAWRAH This is the first Palestinian delegation to visit Baghdad since the Baghdad summit, in which the PLO participated and whose results were considered very positive. Many statements have been made regarding a positive development in the relations between the PLO and Iraq. We would like you to talk to us about the objectives of this visit, the atmosphere of talks and the results.

'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar: The PLO Executive Committee decided to send this delegation and to hold discussions with sisterly Iraq out of its deep appreciation for the need to coordinate efforts and standpoints between the PLO and Iraq, particularly after the ninth Arab summit held in Baghdad and the Iraqi-Syrian Joint National Action Charter. The purpose of the visit is also to organize our bilateral relations and to hold consultations with our brothers in Baghdad regarding developments at the present stage, and future steps to confront the policy of surrender represented in the Camp David accords aimed at liquidating the Palestinian problem and the Palestinian people's inalienable rights. For this reason, the Executive Committee decided to form a delegation from among its members to visit Baghdad and to hold such talks. The Palestinian leadership attaches special importance to the outcome of the delegation's visit and talks because it comes just before the 14th Palestine National Council [PNC] session, scheduled to be held in Damascus on 15 January.

The talks were fruitful, extremely successful and the views identical, especially regarding the need to preserve the great gains achieved from the Baghdad summit as well as the Joint National Action Charter to which Iraq and Syria adhere; their positive effects transcend the Iraqi and Syrian borders and positively affect the Arab liberation movement, especially the Palestinian revolution.

With regard to the outcome of the discussions, agreement has been made to continue to hold consultations periodically as well as continue coordination and the adoption of brotherly methods of discussion in dealing with all common problems. We have also agreed to coordinate our Arab and international efforts in order to achieve both our tactical and strategic goals.

ATH-THAWRAH: For several weeks there has been argument among the resistance factions regarding the PLO's relations with Jordan. Two PLO delegations have gone to Amman thus far and argument still continues. What is the PLO's viewpoint on this matter, which has been under discussion for several years, and how do you view this issue in light of the present situation?

'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar: The PLO realizes the importance of establishing positive relations with sisterly Jordan on the basis of the Baghdad summit resolutions, which confirmed the Rabat and Algiers summit resolutions. We believe that the nature of the present stage calls for concentrating on the positive aspects of Arab relations in order to face the common danger and the common enemy's schemes by presenting the widest possible front. This underlies the importance of what President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr said at the summit opening session regarding the need for fundamental agreement. Considering our views on the nature of the present stage and our appreciation of the importance of Jordan in view of its location and its relationship with the Palestinian people and struggle inside the occupied territories, we deal with sisterly Jordan while fully appreciating the patriotic and national responsibilities involved and on the basis of preserving the gains achieved by the Palestinian revolution in all areas.

Thus far, two delegations have gone to Jordan and held prolonged talks, during which several proposals were discussed for organizing bilateral relations as well as the efforts to support our people's steadfastness in the occupied territories. These proposals are now being discussed at the Executive Committee. There is no doubt that some of the points in the proposals need to be discussed and amended. When final agreement is reached on the basis which I have mentioned, the relationship will effectively contribute to our stand at the present stage.

ARAB COMMUNIST PARTIES CONFERENCE STATEMENT EXAMINED

For Moscow PRAVDA report on the statement adopted by the Arab countries' communist and workers parties conference in December 1978, see the Middle East & North Africa section of the 18 January Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

KUWAIT

ARAB LEAGUE'S MAHMUD RIYAD DEPARTS KUWAIT

LD181548 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad left Kuwait today at the end of his 2-day visit during which he had an audience with Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah and with the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah. Mr Riyad also had talks with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, on the rebuilding of Lebanon and also on the coming Arab League ordinary session in March in Mogidiscio.

SAUDI ARABIA

F-15 AIR DISPLAY HELD AT JIDDA AIRBASE

LD181146 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1052 GMT 18 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Jidda--An air display of U.S. F-15's was staged this morning at Jidda airbase. Present were Lt Gen Mansur Ash-Shu'aybi, commander of the western region, a number of officers from Jidda airbase, and Mr John West, U.S. ambassador to the kingdom.

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR VISIT TO FRG

LD181636 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1520 GMT 18 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--His Royal Highness Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal left Riyadh this afternoon for Bonn. He begins a short visit to West Germany tomorrow at the invitation of German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

During the visit, his royal highness will confer with the German foreign minister on bilateral relations and cooperation and also on international issues of common concern, including the Middle East issue.

YEMEN--PDRY

PRIME MINISTER RETURNS FROM ETHIOPIA; TIES TO INCREASE

LD181745 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Jan 79 LD/EA

[Summary] Prime Minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad returned to Aden this morning after an official visit to Ethiopia lasting several days.

"Shortly before leaving Ethiopia, the brother member of the Politburo, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly and prime minister made a statement to correspondents in which he said that his talks with Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provicisonal Military Administrative Council, other comrades in the Military Council, and ministers, provided an opportunity to discuss several fundamental issues affecting developments in both countries and their peoples.

"He said that views were concurrent on the issues discussed and that such agreement showed very clearly that the Yemeni and Ethiopian revolutions, which were staged by the two friendly peoples by the blood of their sons and by their struggle, were marching along the correct road and were today standing on one front in the struggle against imperialism, Zionism and reaction. These forces are today trying contemptuously to preserve their interests in the Arab, African and other regions following their liquidation in numerous countries thanks to continuous struggles and popular uprisings against imperialist interests and reactionary regimes in those countries.

"In his statement, brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad emphasized that the relations of comprehensive cooperation and deep friendship between the peoples and governments of the two countries will witness increasing development now and in the future in line with the wishes of the leaders and peoples of the two friendly countries.

"In Addis Ababa last night, brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad met Yemeni expatriates in socialist Ethiopia. He acquainted himself with their problems and discussed all their affairs. He called for the maintenance of stronger links with the homeland and a great contribution to building a (?growing) Yemeni society. He reaffirmed that the government of the revolution will continue to extend every support and assistance to the sons of the homeland living abroad."

YEMEN--YAR

ARAB MILITARY DELEGATIONS VISIT BAB EL MANDEB AREA

NC181230 Doha QNA in Arabic 1142 GMT 18 Jan 79 NC

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 18 January--YAR Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj has stated that military delegations from Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Libya, Iraq, and Jordan have recently visited the strategic Bab el Mandeb area to study the security situation there and to draw up a plan to protect the Bab el Mandeb Strait, but these visits produced no positive results.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti weekly magazine SAWT AL-KHALIJ published today, Al-Asnaj said that the Arab states, which have the longest coast on the Red Sea, have the right to link their regional security requirements with their national requirements without affecting the safety of international navigation through this strait.

The Yemeni minister denied the presence of any Iranian military experts in Yemen, as recently reported, to train the Yemeni Army in the use of U.S. weapons.

He affirmed that the central areas in Yemen, which have recently been the scene of acts of sabotage, have regained their security in the past 2 weeks after the subversive elements have been eliminated.

Al-Asnaj said that with regard to the issue of armament, Soviet weapons are still the backbone of the Yemeni Armed Forces. However, a plan to diversify the sources of weapons has recently been put into effect.

AS-SADAT MEETS WITH FORD, SHAH OF IRAN, 18 JANUARY

NC190628 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 19 Jan 79 NC

[Excerpt] President Anwar as-Sadat met twice yesterday with former President Gerald Ford at the Oberoi Hotel in Aswan. A tripartite meeting was later held at Shahanshah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi's wing in the Oberoi Hotel in Aswan, attended by President as-Sadat, the shahanshah and former U.S. President Gerald Ford. The conferees reviewed the current situation and the latest developments in the area. An atmosphere of understanding prevailed during the meeting.

President as-Sadat gave a special dinner last night for former U.S. President Gerald Ford and Shahanshah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi.

Statement by Ford Spokesman

NC181915 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1835 GMT 18 Jan 79 NC

[Excerpts] Aswan, 18 January--Bob Barry, official spokesman for former U.S. President Gerald Ford, has told MENA that former President Ford wishes to learn about the present state of the negotiations between Egypt and Israel.

The spokesman said that former President Ford has assisted President Jimmy Carter's administration in a number of matters and agreements. He said that the U.S. State Department supports former President Ford's current tour of the Middle East.

Bob Barry explained that former President Ford will begin a tour tomorrow. He will visit Damascus, Riyadh, Israel, Abu Dhabi, Ash-Shariqah, the Sultanate of Oman and finally Jordan.

As-Sadat, Shah Perform Friday Prayers

NC191156 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1146 GMT 19 Jan 79 NC

[Excerpt] Aswan, 19 January--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat and Shahanshah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi performed Friday prayers today at An-Nasr mosque in Aswan. They were joined in the prayers by presidential assistant engineer Sayyid Mar'i and presidential adviser Gen Mohammad 'Abd al-Ghani al-Jamasi.

Shah: Iranian Situation Improving

NC190729 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0656 GMT 19 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 19 January--The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH says today that Shahanshah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi stated that the hitherto cloudy situation in Iran is now improving. The paper adds that the shah was answering a question of one of the reporters accompanying former U.S. President Ford.

[Cairo DPA in Arabic at 1745 GMT on 18 January carries an item which says that "unconfirmed reports in Cairo said today that President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has tried in vain to arrange a meeting between the shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, and his principal opponent, Ayatollah Khomeyni. It has been mentioned that the Egyptian ambassador to France has visited Khomeyni to give him an invitation from President as-Sadat, but that Khomeyni refused."]

COMMENTATOR ON ISRAELI DESIRE TO LIMIT U.S. ROLE IN TALKS

NC181531 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Jan 79 NC

['Abd al-'Azim Hammad commentary: "The Cause and Results of the Difficulties Facing Atherton's Mission in Israel"]

[Text] There has been no indication yet from U.S. or Israeli sources that the discussions of U.S. envoy to the Middle East Alfred Atherton with Israeli officials have resulted in any understanding or agreement about either of the two issues that Atherton was assigned to discuss and solve with the Israelis. Such a solution would lay the groundwork for the resumption of the tripartite peace negotiations among Egypt, Israel and the United States.

On the eve of Atherton's arrival in the area, U.S. sources explained that his present mission is aimed at achieving a degree of understanding on the interpretation of Article VI of the Egyptian-Israeli draft peace treaty. This article concerns giving priority to the obligations undertaken by each side as a result of this treaty over their other international obligations. Furthermore, Atherton's mission is aimed at achieving the same degree of understanding on the Egyptian proposal, which stipulates the need to reconsider the security arrangements in Sinai 5 years after the peace treaty takes effect.

President Carter's administration holds the view that achieving the necessary understanding on these two issues would create a good opportunity for resuming the tripartite peace negotiations at the foreign ministers' level. Furthermore, achieving this understanding would provide these negotiations, if they are resumed, with a minimum guarantee for continuity and progress. According to U.S. thinking, it has been deemed appropriate to defer a discussion of the other two issues now pending--the linkage between the Egyptian-Israeli agreement and the arrangements for establishing Palestinian autonomy and the exchange of ambassadors--until the negotiations, which are expected to be held at ministerial level if Atherton succeeds in this present mission.

If Atherton does not achieve the required degree of understanding on the interpretation of Article VI and on the Egyptian proposal to reconsider the security arrangements 5 years after the peace treaty takes effect, the United States might then deem it imperative to convene a tripartite conference modeled after the Camp David summit conference. A call for such a conference might be made on the grounds that summit negotiations are considered the last resort, as President Carter has personally indicated.

Therefore, the success or failure of Atherton's present mission is considered to be of great importance to U.S. diplomacy in the Middle East in view of its possible repercussions.

If we then try to assess the prospects for the success or failure of Atherton's present mission, we discover that this ultimately depends on the position of the Israeli negotiators. This is because it is known that Atherton came to Israel with a U.S. interpretation, accepted by Egypt, of the text of Article VI, about which Egypt and Israel disagree.

Furthermore, the possibility of narrowing the gap over the question of reconsidering the security arrangements has always been easier than achieving an agreement on an acceptable interpretation of Article VI. Consequently, if Israel accepts the interpretation brought by Atherton, his mission will immediately draw considerably closer to success. Naturally, the opposite is also true.

Therefore, the question is: What is the real position of the Israeli negotiators regarding the discussions with Atherton?

If we try to guess the position of the Israeli negotiators at the Atherton discussions, pessimism will definitely prevail. However, this answer does not signify an anticipation of events or trading with the prospects for the achievement of some progress. Nor is this answer only due to the resentment with which Atherton's mission had been met in Israel since the day it was announced. Furthermore, this answer is not only an interpretation of the statements by several Israeli officials that they would prefer to see the negotiations resumed at ministerial level.

However, and in addition to all the above points, there is another piece of evidence which implies a more important meaning. It is the constant talk by the Israelis about their disenchantment with the U.S. position on the disputed issues which precluded the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty on the date set in the Camp David agreements. Even worse, Israel's disenchantment with the U.S. position has gone as far as having several senior Israeli officials making statements on the need to limit the present U.S. role in the issue of peace. Israeli Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon has stated that the U.S. role has gone beyond that of a partial mediator to that of the main director of the negotiations. Furthermore, Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin has stated that he prefers that the next round of tripartite negotiations not be held in Washington. This statement is nothing but an expression of the desire to limit the U.S. role in the Egyptian-Israeli peace negotiations.

We realize that the Israelis want to limit the U.S. role because the Americans are more favorable toward Egypt's viewpoints. Therefore, a strong U.S. presence at the negotiations is considered supportive of the Egyptian negotiators. However, what concerns us now is the fact that this declared Israeli desire in no way fosters Atherton's mission. This is because, as we have already pointed out, Atherton has brought with him a U.S. interpretation of Article VI of the draft treaty. This fact in itself is an indication of the strong role being played by U.S. diplomacy in the Middle East peace process--a fact that does not please Israel.

Nevertheless, we can wait a while to see the results of Atherton's negotiations in Israel, and the steps U.S. diplomacy will decide to take in light of these results.

PRESIDENT SEKOU TOURE ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD

JN181710 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Jan--Guinea President Ahmed Sekou Toure arrived here today on a visit to Iraq at the invitation of President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr.

President Sekou Toure was accorded an official welcome. President al-Bakr was among the first to welcome the guest at the airport. Members of the Revolution Command Council, ministers and senior officials were also present to welcome the visitor.

The delegation accompanying the Guinea president is made up of Prime Minister Dr Louis Lansana Beavogui; Fily Sissoko, minister of foreign affairs; Mamady Keita, minister of culture and education; N'faly Sangare, minister of planning and economic cooperation; and the members of the Central Committee of the Democratic Party of Guinea. The Guinea president is also accompanied by Saikou Barry, minister of foreign commerce; (Fudy Suriba Camrara), chairman of the Islamic National Council; Arcel (Crossy), member of parliament; and Salimou Sissoko, Guinea's ambassador to Iraq.

DELEGATIONS LEAVE BAGHDAD AT END OF ARAB YOUTH CONFERENCE

JN181554 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1455 GMT 18 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Jan--The Arab delegations which participated in the conference of Arab ministers of youth and sports continue to leave Baghdad after the conference ended its meetings yesterday.

Abdelhafid Kadiri, Moroccan minister of youth and sports, and the delegation accompanying him; Jalal 'Atabani, head of the Sudanese delegation; 'Umar Husayn 'Ali, secretary general of the Palestinian Higher Council for Sports and Youth; Maj Thiam El Hadj, Mauritanian minister of youth and sports; and Djamal Houhou, Algerian minister of sports and youth, left Baghdad today.

The delegations praised the outcome of the conference, especially the results related to the Arab countries participation in establishing a sports and youth fund as a means to meet the needs of Arab youth.

IRAQI, SYRIAN JURISTS END MEETINGS, ADOPT RESOLUTIONS

JN181549 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1430 GMT 18 Jan 79 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 18 Jan--Iraqi and Syrian jurists have agreed to adopt the appropriate measures to coordinate the efforts of their two organizations to achieve the unity of the two countries' jurists in one organization.

A joint working paper was issued in Baghdad today at the end of a series of meetings between the Syrian and the Iraqi jurist associations. The working paper covers the formation of a joint council made up of eight members--four from each association--to head the two associations. The council will hold its meetings every 3 months in Baghdad and Damascus, alternately. The council's duties will be to supervise the two associations' Arab and international activities, and to prepare unified statutes for the two associations prior to their being unified in a single organization. It was also decided to set up a joint committee on social activities with the task of organizing meetings and trips with the goal of establishing a common social atmosphere. It was also decided to set up a vocational committee to prepare vocational courses and a unified law on the practice of law in the two countries.

NONALINED PRESS DELEGATIONS ARRIVE IN BAGHDAD

JN181613 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1520 GMT 18 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Jan--Nonalined press delegations continue to arrive in Baghdad to participate in the conference of nonalined journalists scheduled to begin its meetings here on Sunday.

(Orlean Nestor), secretary general of the International Organization of Journalists, arrived here this morning.

(Nestor) stated that the meeting is taking place to strengthen relations and unify positions to confront the imperialist-colonialist challenges represented by the onslaughts waged by the imperialist information media.

(Nestor) expressed the hope that the meeting will yield positive results which will serve the field of information in the nonalined countries and enable these countries to confront the dangers with which the colonialist forces in the world are surrounding them.

A delegation of the DPRK journalists union led by Chairman (Bok Ji On) arrived here at noon today.

(Bok) stated that the meeting is important because it is being held to unify the national positions of the nonalined journalists to confront imperialist information and propaganda.

INA REPORTS ON IRAQI-MAURITANIAN TALKS

JN181218 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1205 GMT 18 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Jan--The Iraqi-Mauritanian talks began here today in an attempt to expand cooperation between the two countries in the various fields. The Iraqi side was headed by Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and housing minister, and the Mauritanian side was led by Col Viah Ould Mayouf, minister of transport, posts and telecommunications, tourism and local crafts.

At the outset of the talks, the RCC member stressed the need to lay clear and firm bases for the existing cooperation between Iraq and Mauritania.

Colonel Mayouf expressed his hope that the talks will achieve positive results to consolidate cooperation in the tourism and industrial fields. He also expressed the hope that the talks will result in Iraq's contribution to creating an industrial base in Mauritania.

Two joint committees have stemmed from the talks--the first committee for transport and communications, and the second for tourism and traditional crafts. The two committees will draw up specific programs for cooperation in these fields for discussion and approval.

BEIRUT, VOP, VOL RADIOS REPORT ISRAELI ATTACK ON SOUTH

Beirut Radio Report

NC190552 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 19 Jan 79 NC

[Text] At dawn today, Israel launched aggression against the towns of Armun and Al-'Ayshyah, while consultations were in progress at the Security Council with the aim of extending the UNIFIL mandate in the south. The council session has been postponed until today so that a final and unanimous decision regarding the UN forces may be taken.

VOP Report

JN190720 Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic 0652 GMT 19 Jan 79 JN

[Text] At 0115 today, the Zionist enemy carried out a large-scale attack on the Al-'Urqub area using heavy artillery, gunboats and air force. The Zionist enemy also landed a group of commandos in the area. Our advanced groups confronted the commandos and inflicted heavy casualties on them. The enemy began the landing operation near Arnun in the area of Al-Qal'ah and Yahmid. However, our forces were able to repulse this attack and the landing attempt at 0500 today and inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy, which then advanced into Ad-Dimashqiyah and Ad-Dawudiyah, where our units clashed with them. The enemy forces bombarded our positions with artillery, and its planes flew intensively above them. The enemy also bombarded the (?Al-Hasbani) area.

Enemy gunboats participated in the attack, shelling [names indistinct]. Enemy forces tried to penetrate our positions in Al-Mahudiyah and Al-Wasi'iayah. Our fighters clashed with the infiltrators. The support forces intensively and fiercely bombarded the enemy forces with artillery and machineguns. Enemy helicopters were seen transporting the dead and wounded under the cover of an intensive Zionist artillery bombardment.

Our artillery bombarded the enemy positions in Marj 'Uyun and all other positions. At 0700 today, our forces were still chasing the remnants of the enemy forces that infiltrated across the Litani River. Our forces at dawn today gained full control of all areas that the enemy tried to penetrate. The enemy air force is still flying intensively above the area.

The radio correspondent in southern Lebanon reports that the morale of our fighters is very high after foiling the enemy attack, which failed to achieve any of its objectives thanks to the awareness and vigilance of our fighters, as well as to their total alertness in anticipation of the enemy reaction to the heroic operation carried out yesterday morning in (Mehna Yehuda) Street in occupied Jerusalem.

The enemy radio admitted this morning that the remnants of its forces began withdrawing and that a state of maximum alert was declared in all the settlements located in northern Palestine out of fear of the rockets and artillery of our fighters.

VOL Report

NC190846 Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0815 GMT 19 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Correspondents in the south have reported some details of the Israeli air landing in Al-'Ayshiyah and Arnun, which began at 0115.

The clashes continued until this morning. The Israeli forces began to withdraw at 0600. The correspondents say that the landing took place in the areas of Armun, Qulayt and (Yahmur). One force advanced toward Ad-Dimashqiyah and (Ad-Dahudiyah), where clashes ensued with the Palestinians and the leftist forces.

Israeli Air Force planes flew over the area this morning. Military boats fired on positions in Al-Qasimiyah and Abu al-Aswad. The Israeli artillery paved the way for the attack by shelling the various Palestinian and leftist positions.

In Al-'Ayshiyah there was house-to-house fighting. Israeli artillery shells fell on the area extending from Armun to ar-Rayhanah.

Israeli planes intensified their flights over the area this morning without going into action, while the Israel withdrawal was in progress.

No statements have been made about casualties.

[Another VOL report at 1215 GMT on 19 January notes that "the raiding Israeli forces captured 25 members of the Arab Army of Lebanon and killed 16 armed men belonging to the leftist and communist forces as well as 7 civilians."]

ADF ISSUES STATEMENT ON EXPLOSION IN AL-ASHRAFIYAH

NC191225 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Jan 79 NC

[19 January statement by responsible source of Arab Deterrent Forces--ADF--Command; read by announcer]

[Text] At 1030 yesterday, an explosion occurred in Al-Ashrafiyah. Soon afterward, rumors spread that the ADF is preparing to shell Al-Ashrafiyah and that the shelling would be continuous. This caused widespread fear among the inhabitants, and some of them left their homes for the mountains as a result.

This is what really happened: A dispute arose over the parking of an automobile near Good Shepherd School. The dispute involved Jean Nasr on one hand and Farah Khalil and his brother Samir on the other. The dispute led to an exchange of fire and the explosion of a handgrenade, which was mistakenly considered to be the beginning of the shelling.

IRISH UN CONTINGENT HARASSED BY 'RIGHTIST' MILITIA

NC190636 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 19 Jan 79 NC

[Text] The commander of UNIFIL's contingent in southern Lebanon has announced that for the past 4 days over 100 members of the Irish contingent have been harassed by the rightist militia supported by Israel. He said the 120 men, who are a part of the 600-man Irish contingent, were deployed in 8 positions inside the area under the control of the militia. This is further proof of mounting tension in southern Lebanon on the eve of the UN Security Council debate on renewal of the UNIFIL mandate.

Meanwhile, two Israel Phantoms yesterday flew at low altitude over southern Lebanon. An Israeli military boat was sighted opposite the southern coast.

FORMER U.S. PRESIDENT FORD ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS

JN191128 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 19 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--Former U.S. President Gerald Ford arrived in Damascus this morning for a 1-day visit, during which he will meet with his excellency, President Hafiz al-Asad.

'SENIOR' OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON IRAN, LEBANON, IRAQI UNITY

JN181132 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 15-21 Jan 79 pp 15-19 JN

[Interview by Nadim Abu Ghannam with "senior Syrian official" in Damascus last week]

[Excerpts] Syria supports Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's revolution against the shah and looks forward to good Arab-Iranian relations after the fall of the Pahlavi dynasty, a senior Syrian official told MONDAY MORNING last week. The government official, who insisted that his name be witheld, said that victory for the Iranian opposition would mean victory for the Arabs, because the fall of the shah would mean the collapse of one of the staunchest supporters of Israel in the Middle East.

The full interview with the senior Syrian official, conducted in Damascus after ADF Commander Sami al-Khatib's talks with Syrian leaders last week, follows:

Question: How would you describe Syria's current relations with the Lebanese Front?

Answer: Relations with the Lebanese Front have not changed: They're bad, due to that front's flagrant, unconcealed dealings with Israel.

There will be no change in our relations with those isolationists unless they change their relationship with and attitude toward the Zionist enemy.

Question: There has been a lot of talk recently about a "new round" of fighting between the Lebanese Front militias and the Syrian troops of the ADF. Do you foresee more violence, and do you think there is any way it can be avoided?

Answer: I wouldn't rule out more fighting. It wouldn't surprise me, because the Lebanese isolationists are directed by orders from Israel, and Israel is not happy about our progress toward Syrian-Iraqi unity. It will do anything possible to hamper the unity project.

Question: How would you describe Syria's relationship with the Lebanese state, on the eve of Premier Salim al-Huss' visit to Damascus?

Answer: Let me put it this way: If there is any "new round" in Lebanon, the people who will start it are the people who have always started the violence in Lebanon--the isolationists. The role of the ADF has always been a peaceful role, a defense role, not the role of instigator.

What encourages the isolationist forces to instigate violence is the lenient and hesitant attitude of the Lebanese authorities, especially toward the implementation of the Bayt ad-Din resolutions. Syria is displeased by the hesitant attitude of senior Lebanese officials toward the implementation of the Bayt ad-Din resolutions, and it views with great concern what is happening in south Lebanon, especially the activities of the treasonous Lebanese officers.

The question is: What is those Lebanese officials' attitude toward those traitors? When will the Lebanese authorities adopt a position? When will the Lebanese authorities announce a clear, unambiguous, undiluted and unhesitant policy?

Where Dr. al-Huss is concerned, Syrian officials hold him in great esteem, appreciate his positions and support him totally.

We consider Premier al-Huss the commander of 30,000 armed men--30,000 Syrian soldiers.

One of the subjects which will be discussed with Premier al-Huss during his visit will be the effective implementation of the Bayt ad-Din resolutions.

Question: There is a lot of speculation in Beirut about what would happen if Syrian troops pulled out of Lebanon. What are the chances of a Syrian withdrawal, and what do you think would happen if your troops withdrew?

Answer: The ADF will stay in Lebanon until the Lebanese crisis is over, and any reports or rumors to the contrary are only aimed at damaging the ADF's role in Lebanon.

Question: There have been reports in the Lebanese and Syrian press about the arrival in Juniyah and Beirut of Egyptian intelligence officers. How reliable do you think they are?

Answer: As I told you, Israel would do anything to block Syrian-Iraqi unity, and the As-Sadat regime has sold out the Arabs and the Arab cause to join the Israeli camp. In view of this, it is not surprising that Egyptian intelligence officers, along with Egyptian support in the form of equipment or mercenaries, should be sent to the Lebanese isolationists.

Question: What is Syria's attitude toward the developments in Iran? How do you view the shah and Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni?

Answer: Syria is observing developments in Iran with great interest. It has good relations with the Iranian opposition and looks forward with much optimism to the future of Arab-Iranian relations, in the light of the Iranian opposition's stand against Israel.

Syria believes that the fall of the shah would mean the fall of one of the region's staunchest supporters of Israel.

We support Khomeyni directly in his rebellion against the shah's regime, and our relations with him are excellent. Last week, one of his aides visited Damascus and held talks with senior Syrian officials.

Perhaps it is a coincidence that another one of Khomeyni's top aides, Sadek Katab Zad Asfahani, who is a resident of Paris, is the European correspondent of the Syrian newspaper ATH-THAWRAH.

Question: What effect do you think the shah's fall would have on the Arab-Israeli conflict? Some have said the shah's departure would have repercussions in neighboring Arab countries, especially the gulf states. Do you agree?

Answer: The shah's fall from power in Iran would strengthen the Arab position and weaken the Israeli position. Syria and Iraq are looking forward with satisfaction to a change in the Iranian regime, because our attitude toward the Iranian people has always been one of respect, and we wish nothing but their welfare.

The rise of Iraqi-Syrian unity and the collapse of the shah's regime have already had widespread regional repercussions which there is no room to explain and analyze now. But the end result has been the weakening of the As-Sadat regime, Israel and the Camp David agreements, the strengthening of the Arab position and the addition of another winning card to the cards of the Palestinian revolution.

Question: What progress has been made in the unity talks between Syria and Iraq, and what kind of unity do you expect to emerge?

Answer: The unity that will emerge will be total unity on the military, economic, educational and information levels. There will be one president, alternately Syrian or Iraqi. There will be one flag, one name and one national anthem. The military committee, with Defense Minister Mustafa Talas representing Syria, and Defense Minister 'Adnan Khayrallah representing Iraq, will meet this weekend. On January 25-26, there will be a meeting of the Higher Political Committee, with President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr heading the Iraqi team and President Hafiz al-Asad heading the Syrian team. During that meeting, the Syrian-Iraqi unity charter will be signed.

Unity is coming soon, and the one nation will be declared no matter what country approves or disapproves.

Question: What are the attitudes of the Soviet Union and the United States to the unity project?

Answer: The Soviet Union has told us officially, more than once, that it supports Syrian-Iraqi unity. The United States has given the news a cool reception.

Question: What were the major results of General Mustafa Talas' recent visit to Moscow? Will Syria receive the Soviet arms it wants? Are Soviet-Syrian relations back to normal?

Answer: Our relations with the Soviet Union are good. General Talas' visit to Moscow was positive and successful.

Question: What kind of relations do you foresee between Syria, Iraq and the PLO after the unity charter is signed?

Answer: The Palestine National Council will hold its first meeting on January 15 (Monday) in Damascus. The meeting takes on special importance in view of the current circumstances. The PLO will define its position on all current issues and the relations between its own member organizations. As for Syria and Iraq, they will do their best to provide a positive atmosphere conducive to the success of the PNC meeting.

Tariq 'Aziz, member of the Iraq Revolutionary Command Council, is coming to Damascus on January 14 to hold side-meetings with Palestinian leaders. A senior representative of the Syrian Government, probably Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, will attend those meetings. Among the subjects to be discussed will be the united Iraqi-Syrian state and its relations with the PLO.

Question: To what extent will there be practical unity between Iraq and Syria? For instance, if Syria is forced into a confrontation with Israel in south Lebanon, can it count on the Iraqi Army?

Answer: If the Syrian forces are the target of aggression in south Lebanon or anywhere else, the Iraqi forces will stand by them, because they are one army.

ALGERIA

BITAT MEETS CONGO PRESIDENT, SDAR DELEGATION

LD122038 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 12 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpt] Head of state Rabih Bitat had a meeting with Congolese President Joachim Yhombi-Opango in Algiers today. Also attending the meeting were, on the Algerian side, Abdelaziz Bouteflika, member of the Council of the Revolution and minister of foreign affairs, and on the Congolese side, the first vice president and the minister of foreign affairs. The meeting was followed by a luncheon given by the head of state in the Congolese president's honor.

President Opango, who arrived in Algiers yesterday, met this afternoon with the Saharan delegation led by Omar Hadrani, member of the Revolutionary Command Council of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic. The delegation also included Minister of Information Mohamed Salem Ould Salek and POLISARIO Politburo member Omar Mansour.

Yhombi-Opango Departs

LD131230 Algiers APS in French 1000 GMT 13 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpt] Algiers--Congolese President Joachim Yhombi-Opango left Algiers airport on Saturday morning at the end of a visit to the capital, during which he paid his respects at the tomb of President Houari Boumediene. He also held talks with the head of state, Rabih Bitat.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI FORECASTS UNREST IN EGYPT, SAUDI ARABIA

LD181508 London BBC Domestic Television Service in English 2100 GMT 17 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Britain's past relations with the shah have been defended in the Commons by the Foreign Secretary, Dr Owen, but he agreed that it had been a mistake to underestimate the mounting political opposition inside Iran. After the events there, other Muslim countries could face similar internal problems, a possibility examined by our diplomatic correspondent, John Simpson: [begin recording]

[Simpson] Although the shah was finally brought down by a mass movement involving people of almost every kind in Iran, it began as a powerful combination of political leftwingers and religious fundamentalists. The same kind of alliance is forming elsewhere in the Muslim world, particularly in Western-inclined countries. The government which has given most support to the anti-shah movement has been Libya, and on Monday--the shah's last day in power--I traveled there to meet its leader, colonel Al-Qadhdhafi. I met him at a small camp in the desert where he had gone to rest and ponder on the idiosyncratic revolution he has brought to Libya. He strongly rejects what he sees as corruption of Western influence and he preaches the need to return to simpler virtues. He believes that Egypt will undergo the convulsions Iran has been through, that Saudi Arabia--another friend of the West--will follow.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] It will come, too--to bring this thing to Saudi Arabia and to Egypt and other countries similar to this country, to Iran.

[Question] When you say the time will come to bring it, does that mean it should be done from outside or to be done within the country?

[Answer] No, no. It will be done from people itself from inside Saudi Arabia, inside, and Egypt as it is now being done inside the Iran from the people itself, by the people itself, by the masses.

[Simpson] Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi denies giving money or arms to the shah's enemies. Western diplomats believe that days when he freely armed guerrilla movements like the IRA are now past. He himself says he is not in favor of the Soviet Union, but that mistakes the West has made in Iran and elsewhere in the Muslim world simply play into the hands of Russians. [end recording]

MOROCCO

GUINEA'S SEKOU TOURE LEAVES AFTER VISIT

LD181358 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 18 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Marrakech, MAP--Guinea President Sekou Toure left Morocco this morning, together with the ministerial delegation accompanying him, at the end of his 4-day visit to the country. The guest was seen off at Marrakech airport by Moulay Hafiz al-Alwai, minister of royal palace, protocol and medal [title as received], by the mission of honor that accompanied the guest during his visit, by the ambassadors to Rabat and Conakry, and by others.

Communique on Visit

LD182148 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 18 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Marrakech, 18 January, MAP--Following Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure's official visit to Morocco, a Moroccan-Guinea joint communique has been issued. It says:

At the invitation of His Majesty King Hassan II, President Ahmed Sekou Toure, president of the Republic of Guinea, paid an official visit to Morocco from 15 to 18 January. During President Ahmed Sekou Toure's stay in Morocco he paid visits to Marrakech, Rabat and Fez. The guest of his majesty was accorded a warm popular reception everywhere he went in view of the great friendship and the deep appreciation that link the heads of the two states and the fraternal relations that have always existed between the Moroccan and Guinean Peoples.

On the occasion of this visit His Majesty King Hassan II and President Ahmed Sekou Toure held several private working sessions and in an atmosphere of cordiality and understanding, exchanged views on bilateral relations, regional and international problems and problems of Africa.

His Majesty King Hassan praised President Ahmed Sekou Toure for the important role he plays within the context of eliminating hotbeds of tension in Africa with the aim of consolidating African unity. His majesty warmly greeted the continuation of the historical and fraternal relations that link both countries, particularly since Morocco and Guinea laid down the first bricks for African unity at the Casablanca conference in 1961, when they enthusiastically expressed their determination to work for the independence of countries on the continent still under colonialist occupation and for the achievement of economic and social development for all the states of Africa.

On the other hand, President Ahmed Sekou Toure praised the mighty development efforts being made throughout the kingdom and noted with great appreciation the major successes achieved by Morocco, led by His Majesty King Hassan II, in the cultural, social and economic fields.

On the bilateral level His Majesty King Hassan II and President Ahmed Sekou Toure reviewed all issues related to cooperation in various fields and studied them with a joint desire to strengthen this cooperation and broaden its legal framework. On this occasion they signed several agreements and treaties:

--An agreement for economic and technical cooperation;
--A trade and customs agreement;
--A cultural and scientific agreement.

On the occasion of the signing they expressed their satisfaction with the progress recorded in all fields of bilateral cooperation.

While studying the situation prevailing at the regional level, both sides expressed their deep hope that peace and conciliation will be achieved in the region and confirmed their determination to work for the elimination of tension in the Arab Maghreb and the achievement of conciliation and respect for the national sovereignty and integrity of all states. They also confirmed their adherence to the OAU's objectives. They expressed their conviction that solutions to African problems should be found by African countries themselves.

After noting that racist and minority regimes in southern Africa are waning, the heads of state declared their determination to work for the elimination of the racial discrimination prevailing in southern Africa and expressed their full support for the national movements waging liberation struggles in Zimbabwe, Namibia and Azania.

When studying the situation in the Middle East the heads of state clearly pointed out the need to find a quick, comprehensive, just and lasting solution based on the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all the occupied Arab territories, including honorable Jerusalem, and recognition of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, including the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Both heads of state showed special interest in one of the basic problems of our age, which requires a quick solution: The wide gap between developing and developed countries. Recognizing the need to eliminate such differences they confirmed their determination to contribute to the establishment of a lasting and just economic order.

President Ahmed Sekou Toure warmly thanked His Majesty King Hassan II for the warm reception and hospitality accorded to him and the delegation accompanying him and expressed his conviction that his official visit to Morocco will contribute to the consolidation of fraternal relations between both countries. He extended to His Majesty King Hassan II an invitation to pay an official visit to Guinea. His majesty accepted the invitation with thanks. The date will be fixed later.

WESTERN SAHARA

SAHARAN FORCES REPORTEDLY KILL 100 MOROCCAN SOLDIERS

LD181936 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 18 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Over 100 soldiers of the Royal Moroccan Armed Forces were killed in attacks carried out by the Saharan Liberation Army in southern Morocco and the occupied zones, during the period 11 to 14 January. Material losses, too, were heavy: About 20 vehicles and 10 mortars and cannon were destroyed by the Saharan army.

MEETINGS WITH AMBASSADOR ATHERTON CONCLUDE, ARTICLES DISCUSSED

TA181814 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 18 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Two working meetings were held today by the U.S. team, headed by Ambassador Alfred Atherton, and the Israeli team, headed by the director general of the prime minister's office, Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar. Our political correspondent Shalom Qital sums up today's deliberations:

[Qital] It is worth noting that today Alfred Atherton, in the talks he held with Ben-Elisar, condemned the attack in Jerusalem, but, of course, the talks dealt primarily with the peace treaty. Following today's talks, it appears that Israel is now being asked to study a series of U.S. proposals for a solution to the articles in the treaty which are in dispute: Article IV and Article VI. Today, they dealt extensively with these articles and the special ambassador, Alfred Atherton, said: [begin recording]

[Atherton--in English] We have not reached any conclusions on any of these items, but the United States side has put forth certain suggestions on ways in which we think these problems might be resolved, which are under consideration. [end recording]

[Qital translates the above into Hebrew and adds:] Tomorrow, Atherton will again meet with the team headed by Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar and, afterward, there will again be a meeting with Prime Minister Menahem Begin. Atherton expects to hear Israel's reaction to the U.S. proposals from the highest level. After the meeting today, Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar said: [begin recording]

[Ben-Elisar] We are discussing a limited number of articles. That is certainly sufficient when the reference is to articles of very great significance. But I must point out that the talks are being held in a spirit of good will in a good atmosphere. [end recording]

Atherton, Ben-Elisar Comment

TA182054 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Jan 79 TA

[Text] The political talks between Israel and the United States continued today. Our political correspondent says that, at the end of the second day of the political talks being held in Jerusalem, the difficulties confronting the negotiations have not been eliminated and the gaps present at the beginning of the talks between Israel and the United States have not been bridged. However, circles in the prime minister's office say that the negotiations have not reached a crisis and the talks will continue tomorrow. The teams are headed by Ambassador Alfred Atherton and Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar. Our political correspondent Elimelekh Ram reviews this evening's talks:

[Ram] The proposals the Americans are putting forward are mainly legal ones and based more on ideas than on documents. The Israeli delegation to the talks is not supposed to receive or reject proposals. It presents Israel's position and passes on to the political level--i.e., to the prime minister or to the whole Cabinet--the proposals put forward in the talks. However, this evening it is clear beyond any doubt that there are serious difficulties. The U.S. proposals do not fit in with the declared Israeli position. As you will recall, Israel is prepared to discuss a reexamination of the security arrangements in Sinai after a certain period of time from the signing of the peace treaty, but it does not accept any change in the article dealing with the priority of the treaty vis-a-vis agreements which the parties have signed with other countries.

At the end of the second day of talks, Ambassador Atherton said: [begin videotape]

[Atherton--in English] We have had quite intensive discussions now over the last 2 days on the three paragraphs of the treaty text and the related questions, which I indicated we would be concentrating on in these meetings. We have not reached any conclusions on any of these items, but the United States side has put forth certain suggestions of ways in which we think these problems might be resolved, which are under consideration. And we will be continuing our talks tomorrow, meeting again here at 1000. I will be seeing the prime minister at noon tomorrow and then, if necessary, we can continue our talks in the early afternoon.

[Ram--in English] Sir, are you going to meet with representatives of the West Bank?

[Atherton--in English] No, I have no such plans.

[Ram] What emerges from Ambassador Atherton's remarks is that there are difficulties. Maybe you can...

[Eliyahu Ben-Elisar] If there were no difficulties, no talks would be necessary.

[Ram] Maybe you could give us at least an indication, a direction? In what direction do the difficulties lie? Why are there difficulties?

[Ben-Elisar] I think that it would be wiser not to give too precise reports at this time.

[Unidentified correspondent] Sir, are there difficulties in regard to all the issues you are discussing or only in regard to several articles? Is it that in other articles you are succeeding in bridging the differences of opinion between you?

[Ben-Elisar] We are discussing a limited number of articles. That is certainly sufficient when the reference is to articles of very great significance. [end videotape]

[Ram] The talks yesterday and today dealt with all disputed issues. Governmental circles are going out of their way to stress that the situation this evening is not to be viewed as a crisis. There is something to talk about. That is what the two delegations will do tomorrow, among themselves. And that is what the U.S. delegation will do with the prime minister.

DAYAN TO MAKE 2-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO FRANCE

TA191113 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 19 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan has accepted the invitation of his French counterpart, Jean Francois-Poncet, and will make a 2-day official visit to France. In the course of his visit Dayan will meet with the president of France and with the prime minister, with heads of the Senate and of the National Assembly, as well as with leaders of the Jewish organizations. The visit is to start in 10 days.

Our correspondent reports that Minister Dayan was scheduled to visit France about 3 months ago, but he postponed his visit because of the Blair House talks.

DIFFERENCES IN CABINET ON PEACE TALKS OUTLINED

TA191051 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 19 Jan 79 p 4 Weekend Supplement TA

[Article by Arye Tzimuqi]

[Text] There is one thing Jerusalem, Cairo and Washington agree about even these days: The only way to achieve a peace treaty between Israel and Egypt will be through a tripartite Begin, As-Sadat and Carter meeting.

President Carter even said so clearly, and signs indicate that he intends to call such a meeting. Later, when the President rescinded his statement, the new statement did not refer to the matter at hand but was made in order not to embarrass Ambassador Atherton, who is now visiting the area as the President's representative, because the meaning of the statement was, so to speak, that "it is a shame that he is going since he will not achieve anything anyway." At the end of Atherton's mission, talks at a ministerial level are expected to take place, but only at the meeting of the three "biggies" following them will a final agreement to sign the peace treaty be reached.

There was a reason why Foreign Minister Dayan refused to take part in the Atherton "fiasco" and even rejected the prime minister's proposal that the director general of his ministry, Yosef Ciechanover, head the team to negotiate with the Americans. It was Dayan himself who proposed the director general of the prime minister's office, Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, as an appropriate candidate to head that team. One of the Labor Party leaders, who is well acquainted with Dayan, described Dayan's arguments in the following remark: "He understands business and knows how to maintain his self-respect."

However, as far as Dayan was concerned, this was not only a matter of self-respect. As early as at the last Cabinet session, the foreign minister demanded that a limit be set on the concessions Israel can possibly make and that the Israeli team be authorized to maneuver within the framework of these "limits". According to Dayan, Israel must initiate and maintain ideas and proposals that had already been raised and voiced to advance the negotiations. But the prime minister, and other ministers with him, argued that as long as the other party does not show signs of willingness to make concessions, there is no justification for Israel to "jump ahead." Begin therefore expressed reservations, though cautious, about Dayan's stance.

Other ministers, among them Shmu'el Tamir, Ari'el Sharon and Hayim Landau emphasized that Israel has already conceded to Israel "above and beyond", and that it is the other party's turn to show "generosity" and concede.

Dr Yosef Burg and several other ministers voiced opinions ranging from sad to hard-nosed concerning the implications of the latest developments in Iran. They maintain that the time has come for a "reassessment" in regard to Israel's status in the region and that only according to the results of this assessment should Israel's positions concerning the continuation of the negotiations be determined.

On this issue the foreign minister thinks that Israel must hold a thorough discussion with the United States on a range of bilateral issues, such as securing the supply of oil for Israel, guaranteeing the continued economic and military aid from the United States and reaching guarantees that the peace treaty will be honored.

Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman also wants new initiatives. However, while Dayan wants initiatives in the talks with the Americans, Weizman wants to reach a renewal of the direct talks with Egypt. According to the defense minister, each day that passes makes our situation worse and more difficult for us to get better conditions. Weizman doubts whether what could have been attained in 1978 could still be attained in 1979. The clarifications by the jurists seem to Weizman as adding a burden and, as he expressed it during the last Cabinet session, he called for making a serious effort to renew the contacts with Egypt. Weizman believes As-Sadat wants peace, and that our awareness of this fact should direct our moves.

Dayan seems to feel that the latest developments in Iran place a burden on the negotiations and make Egypt's positions more intransigent. Weizman, on the other hand, thinks that the effect on Egypt is such as to make it want to speed up and conclude the negotiations. The Egyptians themselves, in a letter to the United States, made it a point to say that "the latest events in Iran are a catalyst to the peace process."

The Egyptian letter was read by each "party" within the Cabinet as reflecting his general outlook on the whole issue. There are minister who regard the letter as a demonstration of intransigence, while others think that it neither adds nor substracts from anything, and even leaves an opening for the continuation of the talks.

These differences, which divide those in favor of additional efforts to reach a peace treaty and those who think they should be conditional on guarantees and on reducing the dangers involved in the autonomy, were expressed even at the latest Cabinet session, even though it devoted very little time to a discussion on the implications of the Egyptian letter.

Ministers Sharon, Landau, Moda'i, Hammer and others who share similar opinions want to make sure that the Judaea and Samaria settlements are strengthened and demand that clear positions concerning the future of the autonomy be determined even before the peace treaty is signed. On the other hand, Begin and his associates are attempting to reach a peace treaty with Egypt and, simultaniously put off the struggle over the future of the autonomy to a later date, after the treaty is signed.

Dayan, Weizman and Begin differ not only on substantive matters, but also in tactics.

A discussion similar to the one in the Cabinet is also taking place inthe Labor Party. The longtime "hawks," a group which has slightly increased in number, recently, are prepared to sign the peace treaty with Egypt, but are opposed to approving the autonomy plan. This group holds similar views to that group of ministers that regrets the Camp David accords. On the other hand, another more moderate group in the Labor Party is prepared to sign the peace treaty with Egypt and at the same time make domestic, restrictive decisions concerning the future of the autonomy.

The "doves" in the Labor Party, headed by Yitzhaq Rabin, are prepared to sign the peace treaty. They is also prepared to make concessions over the various formulations and are prepared to put off the discussion on the future of the autonomy until after the signing of the treaty. This group sees its main goal in helping the Cabinet and even "stimulating" and "pushing" it toward the signing of the peace treaty.

BEGIN DISAGREES WITH MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON ARAB EXILES

TA182140 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Jan 79 TA

[Excerpt] Regarding the problem of Iqrit and Kefar Bar'am: Prime Minister Menahem Begin supports the return of the exiles from Kefar Bar'am to their village, in contradiction to the decision by the ministerial committee headed by Minister Ari'el Sharon. This was learned by our political correspondent Elimelekh Ram.

The prime minister thinks that a way must be found to return the inhabitants of the village to their homes without harming the lands that have been cultivated for the past dozens of years by the Jewish settlements in the area. Begin thinks that tourism and commercial projects should be established in Kefar Bar'am, which would provide the exiles with a livelihood. Information from the prime minister's office reported to our correspondent reveals that back in August, all the Cabinet ministers were informed of the recommendations of the Sharon committee and that it was only because of more urgent affairs that Begin did not put the matter forward for discussion.

MINISTER SHOSTAQ COMMENTS ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH EGYPT

TA181836 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 18 Jan 79 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Excerpt] Minister of Health Eli'ezer Shostaq said this evening that the negotiations with Egypt were frozen. Minister Shostaq, who was appearing at the La'am Council in Tel Aviv, said: We have reached the moment of truth and so have the Egyptians. It may be that Israel will be pressured by the United States, but we cannot give up on matters involving our security.

PERES COMMENTS ON GOLAN HEIGHTS, DEFENSIBLE BORDERS

TA182145 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2015 GMT 18 Jan 79 TA

[Excerpt] Merom Hagolan, 18 Jan--The Alinement government once informed the United States that the Jordan Rift Valley and the Golan Heights were defensible borders that Israel could not concede. Even today, in the opposition, we adhere to our position because we do not want the Americans to defend us, Chairman of the Labor Party MK Shim'on Peres said this afternoon at a meeting with representatives of the Golan Heights settlements held in the members' club of Merom Hagolan.

Peres rejected the proposal made in the Knesset by MK Katz-'Oz suggesting that Israeli sovereignty be imposed on the Golan Heights. Peres pointed out that Israel had no need for superfluous hostilities. In this context, he confirmed that both Carter and Nixon, when they had visited Israel, had advised us not to concede the Golan Heights. The speaker added that had it been the Alinement that was conducting the negotiations with Egypt, it would not have conceded the settlements in the Rafah approaches, as Prime Minister M. Begin did "ecstatically".

At the end of his remarks, he reported that the Labor faction in the Knesset would soon be holding a meeting with representatives of the Golan Heights settlements to discuss their problems.

MINISTER HAMMER DISCUSSED AUTONOMY, W. BANK SETTLEMENT

TA181938 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 18 Jan 79 TA

[Text] A debate on the nature of the autonomy began this evening at the meeting of the MAFDAL leadership. The first of a series of debates the party will be conducting on the issue began at this meeting. The first speak was Minister of Education and Culture Zevulun Hammer, who focussed his remarks on the Jewish aspect of the autonomy. Our correspondent Dan Eshel has returned from the MAFDAL leadership's meeting.

[Eshel] Minister Hammer concentrated on two main points: security and Jewish settlement. Hammer claims that the military deployment in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip must be combined with the civilian deployment--the settlements. Israel must have control over the traffic arteries in the autonomy, especially those from here to the security sites. These security arteries must be under the authority of the IDF in terms of legislation, regulation arrests, water, electricity, telephones, grounds and transportation.

[Hammer--begin recording] There must be freedom of action in case there is a grave breach of the peace or for the prevention of hostile activity. Arrests, searches, all these things--there must be status [previous word in English], there must be legitimization [legitimatzia] for the Israeli forces, military or police, or the investigatory ones, in order to investigate, condemn, judge and imprison. [end recording]

[Eshel] The reference is to daily life, in which it must be insured that small attacks will not gradually erode the power and authority of the Israeli administration or the calm and security of the Jewish colony in Judaea and Samaria.

[Hammer--begin recording] What might happen as soon as there is self-administration? What is already happening a little now? There are sprouts. It can certainly happen when the whole administration is in Arab hands. [end recording]

[Eshel] As for settlement in Judaea and Samaria, Hammer says first that the state and annexed lands will remain in Israel's hands.

[Hammer--begin recording] The right of Israeli citizens--private individuals, associations, companies, whatever--to purchase rights to land must be guaranteed by law and by actual potential. The colony must have this right. Today we know how important this is--to lay roads to the settlements, to be responsible for the maintenance of these roads, for their security and for order along them and to prevent construction alongside them. [end recording]

[Eshel] Israel must have a strong say in the planning of matters pertaining to water in the area. Israeli law must be applied in the area. There must be development planning. These are some of the points Minister Hammer raised. At the end of his remarks, he expressed doubts as to the existence of a complete legal foundation for Jewish settlement in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip.

[Hammer--begin recording] And we must insure a foundation of this sort beforehand, a foundation that will be discussed as part of the issue of the autonomy. That is, some sort of organizational, municipal framework must be established--regional councils or whatever. Dr Burg will doubtlessly be able to develop this. Municipalities, regional councils and the boundaries of the legislation must also have the potential for future development. [end recording]

MODA'I DEMANDS REPLACEMENT OF EHRLICH

TA190957 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 19 Jan 79 p 4 TA

[Article by Re'uven Ben-Tzvi]

[Text] Minister of Energy and Infrastructure Yizhaq Moda'i said yesterday at the Haifa branch of the Liberal Party that the time was ripe to replace Simha Ehrlich as finance minister and chairman of Israel's Liberal Party. Moda'i told his party members in Haifa that he had asked to be invited for a talk with them to explain his recent media appearances.

According to him, neither the treasury nor the party institutions are functioning today and Simha Ehrlich should be replaced both as party chairman and as finance minister.

Four ministers are unable to meet together and party functionaries are unable to convene a single session. When asked why he was using the media, Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i said that he had no other choice after evey other means had failed him.

LABOR PARTY CRITICIZES HANDLING OF EXILES

TA181525 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 18 Jan 79 TA

[Text] The Labor Party is severely criticizing the way in which the government has handled those people who were uprooted from Iqrit and Kefar Bar'am. The party's reaction team says that the Likud leaders have not kept their promise to return the exiles to their villages. The decision not to let the exiles return was even hidden from the public for several months. In the Labor Party's view, this is a result of the government's inability to confront criticism of its decisions. According to the Labor Party, the way in which the decision was made was also confused since one of the members of the committee that dealt with the issue did not know of the committee's conclusions.

ARMOR COMMANDER LEAVES POST, DISCUSSES WITHDRAWAL

TA181642 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 18 Jan 79 TA

[Text] The outgoing commander of the armored corps, Maj Gen Moshe Peled, held a farewell news conference today for military correspondents. During the conference, Major General Peled claimed that, if the evacuation is indeed effected, the territory on which the armored corps will deploy will be equal to that on which one armored brigade is deployed today. The outgoing major general discussed the innovations in the armored corps and the lessons of the Yom Kippur war. Our correspondent relates some of Maj Gen Moshe Peled's remarks:

The IDF evacuation of Sinai has strategic significance, Maj Gen Moshe Peled said at a farewell news conference for military correspondents. The area in which the armored corps can deploy in Sinai [as heard] will be equal to that in which one armored brigade is deployed today. If another war breaks out, Major General Peled said, the main problem will be the pulverizing of the equipment during the fighting. The best tanks will be in the spearhead of the forces, and to their rear will be tanks capable of keeping up with the best tanks.

Major General Peled detailed the lessons learned by the armored corps since the Yom Kippur war. Despite the fact that no basic change has taken place in the armored corps' doctrine, from now on a stronger emphasis will be put on increased cooperation between divisions without any distinction. The importance of supporting fire and the mobility of equipment has also increased.

Surveying the innovations made in the armored corps when he was commander, Major General Peled said that the standards of the training courses have been r[illegible]ed. He put greater emphasis on tank cannon and the improvement of training institut[illegible]s. Improvements have also been made in the whole training setup for armored corps personnel. Maj Gen Moshe Peled, who has completed his term in office as commander of the armored corps, is to begin a study leave.

EXPLOSIVE CHARGE ROCKS HAIFA 18 JAN; NO INJURIES REPORTED

TA181933 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Jan 79 TA

[Text] An explosive charge went off this evening at approximately 2015 in Haifa, near the great synagogue in Herzl Street. Nobody was injured. The charge had been placed in a garbage can.

SECURITY CIRCLES VIEW OBJECTIVES OF TERRORIST ATTACKS

TA181950 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Israeli security elements believe that the latest two incidents--the placing of the booby-trapped car in Jerusalem and today's attack--are parts of an attempt to carry out a showcase, large-scale attack against the background of two events: The meeting of the Palestinian National Council in Damascus and the power struggles among the organizations within it, and the visit by Ambassador Atherton to Israel, which underlines the attempt to resume the political negotiations.

JORDAN RIFT VALLEY SETTLERS COMPLAIN OF LACK OF FUNDS

TA181830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 18 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Representatives of the settlements in the Jordan Rift Valley say that the funds allocated to them by the Knesset Financial Committee are not sufficient and do not even satisfy urgent needs. They brought up the complaints during a tour of the Rift Valley made by members of the Financial Committee and Economic Committee. They added that, since the Camp David agreements, new candidates have been deterred from settling in the Rift Valley. There has recently been an awakening [of interest], but there is a shortage of apartments. The funds allocated to them will only suffice for the construction of 87 apartments in the 15 existing settlements.

IDF ATTACKS TERRORIST BASES IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

TA190523 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 19 Jan 79 TA

[Text] The IDF last night attacked terrorist bases in the areas of the Armun Ridge and of Al-'Ayshiyah north of the Litani River. One man of our forces sustained light injuries.

The IDF spokesman points out that the raid took place according to the existing policy of attacking terrorist training bases and departure points.

Our military correspondent notes that men from the Golani Brigade and paratroopers with artillery assistance participated in the operation. They attacked at 0100 with two forces simultaneously and took the terrorists by complete surprise.

In the area of Al-'Ayshiyah, 13 km north of Metulla, the terrorists were sitting in bases in several villages, their headquarters being in Al-'Ayshiyah itself. The IDF force, which operated in that area, destroyed artillery concentrations and Katyusha launchers, which had been used to shell Qiryat Shemona at the end of last month. In this sector a fight took place in a built-up area between IDF soldiers and the terrorists.

Forces of the Syrian Army are stationed close to Al-'Ayshiyah. They did not intervene.

The second IDF force attacked in the area of Arnun, near the Beaufort Fortress. Here too, the soldiers succeeded in surprising the terrorists, who numbered about 150. As was mentioned earlier, one soldier was slightly injured in the course of this operation.

Fearing terrorist reaction, a state of emergency has been declared in the settlements of the north, and school classes have been canceled.

Further Reportage

TA190650 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 19 Jan 79 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Text] Here is a report by our military correspondent Roni Dani'el from the northern border this morning:

[Dani'el--begin recording] IDF forces last night for the first time went into action north of the Litani River. Paratroop and infantry units with artillery support attacked two terrorist areas. One contingent moved toward Al-'Ayshiyah, about 14 km north of Metulla, attacking terrorist bases at Al-'Ayshiyah, Mazra'at Al-Wazi'iyah and at Al-Mahmudiyah. The area is hilly and covered with forests and the night movement enabled the units to come very close to the targets without being discovered. In this sector the terrorists are deployed in bases located inside the aforementioned villages, several dozen in every village.

Al-'Ayshiyah is a command center for terrorist forces operating in this sector. About 3 km north of Al'Ayshiyah are located medium bore guns, light and medium mortars and Katyusha launchers. All these were attacked. The Katyusha fire on 21 December at Qiryat Shemona was launched from this area. From there the terrorists also make their major attempts to smuggle military hardware to their men in the vicinity of the border with Israel.

The fight in this sector took place mainly in a built-up area, with IDF soldiers going from house to house, clearing each out and blowing it up afterwards. IDF artillery assisted, and while I am broadcasting this echoes of artillery fire can still be heard from time to time.

The IDF operation in the Al-'Ayshiyah area is very close to the positions of the Syrians; so far, they have not reacted.

Concurrently, an IDF force set out and attacked targets near the Beaufort Fortress on the Arnun Ridge, as well as the village of Arnun itself. The Beaufort Fortress is situated on the northern bank of the Litani River, and the force that attacked the Arnun Ridge took the terrorists by complete surprise. Some 150 terrorists are in that sector, part of them in villages on the Arnun Ridge, most of them close to the Beaufort Fortress. Also in this sector the terrorists have artillery pieces of various sizes, mortars and Kaytusha launchers.

The northern border settlements went into a state of emergency for fear of a reaction of some kind.

Meanwhile, the terrorists are firing in the direction of the Christian settlements in the enclave north of Metulla. Shots are being heard from time to time, while the forces that had taken part in the operation have already returned home. [end recording]

IDF PATROL KILLS ARMED TERRORIST IN GAZA AREA

TA190533 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 19 Jan 79 TA

[Text] One armed terrorist was killed last night in the area of Gaza. The incident occurred at 2015 in an encounter with an IDF patrol.

WATER PIPELINE LAID FOR UN FORCES IN S. LEBANON

TA181941 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1815 GMT 18 Jan 79 TA

[Text] The Meqorot Company today completed a water pipeline for the UN forces in southern Lebanon. The line will be operational within the next few days and UN forces will no longer have to transport water in jerrycans.

As will be recalled, the Meqorot Company laid a water pipeline to the Christian enclave villages north of Metulla after the terrorists had destroyed the water installations in the area.

KHOMEYNI'S SPOKESMAN COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

TA180948 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 18 Jan 79 pp 1, 15 TA

[Article by Tamar Golan, MA'ARIV correspondent in Paris]

[Text] "Our criticism against Israel is twofold: First, its people trained the members of SAVAK (the Iranian secret police) and gave full support to the shah, which is unforgivable. Second, the oppression of the Palestinians who have lost their land." This was said yesterday by Dr Ibrahim Yazdi, Khomeyni's senior adviser.

In a talk with two Israeli correspondents--the 'AL HAMISHMAR correspondent and MA'ARIV correspondent in Paris--Dr Yazdi made it clear that "if Israel undertakes to agree to a just peace, if it undertakes to solve the Palestinian problem according to the UN resolution, then we will maintain normal relations with it."

Khomeyni's spokesmen emphasized that at this stage their utmost attention is dedicated to internal problems and that foreign affairs are secondary. They do not intend to sever or form diplomatic relations during the first stage of taking control of the country.

The talk was conducted in a good atmosphere in the living room of the small house in which Khomeyni's command is located while the correspondents and Khomeyni's confidantes were seated barefooted on carpets on the floor. The MA'ARIV correspondent was asked to cover her head and one of Khomeyni's men handed her a blue scarf.

The general impression is that Khomeyni's confidants are not well informed on the Middle East issue and settle for a repetition of cliches. Moreover, it seems that the more confident they become the more their overt enmity toward Israel and the Jews decreases. Their declarations become more careful.

It appears that the "painful point" is the role attributed to Israel in training SAVAK. When we asked Dr Yazdi whether he has clear evidence that Israel trained SAVAK, he answered: "This is a known secret. It appeared in American papers that often mentioned the cooperation between Israel, SAVAK and the CIA. The Israeli secret services have not only trained SAVAK, but have also closely cooperated with it."

In answering another question, another adviser of Khomeyni said that the delegation of Iranian Jews reported in the press to have visited Khomeyni reached the village 2 months ago. He could not even mention a single name. Although it is possible that several Iranian Jews visited Khomeyni, the fact that information about this was released only now, many weeks after the visit, proves that this is chiefly a propaganda exercise.

The claims that Khomeyni expressed antisemitic views and that he attacked other faiths as well were rejected.

In his daily broadcast to the Iranian nation from his base near Paris, Khomeyni yesterday called on the army to join the Islamic movement and not to cooperate with the illegal government of Shahpur Bakhtiar.

Nevertheless, Khomeyni again avoided announcing when he will return to Iran, and his spokesmen told correspondents that he expects "certain preconditions to materialize."

Answering MA'ARIV's question on the nature of these conditions, Khomeyni's adviser, Dr Esfahani (Sadeh) Qotbzadeh, said thatthis is a secret matter, but that "quiet and order should be guaranteed before the leader decides to go back to Iran."

Khomeyni's confidants claim that he meets with no difficulty supervising the events in his country in spite of his physical distance from Iran and that he will continue to do so after the shah's removal just as he did prior to this.

Khomeyni's confidants told correspondents yesterday that the composition of the "Muslim revolutionary council" will become known within 48 hours.

On the issue of the ties between Khomeyni's people and the army, the adviser of the Muslim leader said that they keep in "continuous contacts" with military personages just as they do with all strata of the Iranian people. According to him, Khomeyni does not fear a military revolution in Iran.

MA'ARIV DISCUSSES DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH PRC

TA190932 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 19 Jan 79 p 1 TA

[Article by Ta'aqov Erez]

[Text] One of the aides to the UN secretary general, who is a PRC citizen, visited Israel this week and revealed to his Israeli interlocutors that, according to the impression he received, the Beijing (Peking) Foreign Ministry intends to establish diplomatic relations with Israel, perhaps even before the peace treaty with Egypt is signed.

The senior UN official's name is (S.P. Liu), and he is a member of the "operational" department who came to this region in order to visit the UN forces in Israel and in the neighboring countries. On Monday evening, at the home of Gen Emmanuel Erskine in Jerusalem, he told his Israeli interlocutors that he visited Beijing (Peking) 3 weeks ago and talked to members of the Chinese Foreign Ministry about the possibility of establishing relations with Israel.

He says that the reactions were "positive," but that it would be difficult to assume that the level of the relations would be those of an embassy or even a mission, at the initial stage. They might be at the level of commercial delegations or perhaps even consular representations.

Taiwan KFIR Sale

TA190936 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 19 Jan 79 p 19 TA

[Article by Ya'aqov Erez]

[Text] One of the senior Cabinet members has recently said that the Israeli Cabinet should not sell KFIR aircraft to Taiwan. He emphasized that such a deal might endanger the future relations between ourselves and the PRC. "There is no need to hurry and our steps should be very cautiously calculated so as not to miss even one chance." Selling the KFIR to Taiwan might, according to that minister, endanger the possibility of establishing relations with the PRC.

This week Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman referred to the Taiwan issue and the KFIR's. At a breakfast attended by many and which was held at the Israeli aircraft industries offices, the defense minister said: "As for the Taiwan issue, there are many question marks. I would not put a 'seal' marked 'the end' on it. I would not say that it was 'moving forward.' The world has changed." Weizman probably meant that there has been a change in the PRC and that there is a chance of establishing relations with Israel.

BAKHTIAR ISSUES ORDER FREEING ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS

LD181716 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Prime Minister Bakhtiar issued an order today for the release of all political prisoners throughout the country. The order stresses that apart from the limited number of people who are in prison on murder charges, all other prisoners, regardless of the type of charge and duration of conviction, are to be freed.

BAKHTIAR WARNS NATION AGAINST NEW DICTATORSHIP, REPRESSION

LD181830 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1640 GMT 18 Jan 79 LD

[18 January "message to the Iranian nation" by Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar--recorded]

[Text] My dear compatriots: In a very short time this government has given you most of the freedoms available to civilized nations--freedom of the press, freedom of expression, freedom of assembly, respect for individual and social rights. With the order issued today, nearly all political prisoners convicted during the past few years will be freed.

I am aware that it is not easy for a nation which has grown accustomed to a dictatorial regime for long years to find itself in a free atmosphere, an atmosphere divorced from fear and intimidation. In the course of history there have always been opportunist elements who have penetrated liberation movements in an attempt to change the direction of the movement in their own favor.

The menace threatening our society today is not an exception to this rule. My intense anxiety stems from the possibility that, as a result of anarchy and the lack of any plan, the courageous Iranian people might be led toward some kind of dictatorship. People are tired of and dismayed by the sinister traces of repression stemming from intimidation and threats by others. A great many people are asking themselves: Are we not moving toward a new type of dictatorship unwittingly? Are not these threats the beginning of a diabolical dictatorial regime? Is it not better for political parties to start thinking about reorganizing themselves instead of issuing tiresome slogans? Is it not better for us to think of the country's economy instead of taking the people into the streets every day and threatening to close their shops?

If the people's goal is to reject a dictatorial regime and return to freedom, then all the possibilities are available. However, unless the objective is to hurt the people and cause the country's collapse, such action cannot be justified. Otherwise we would have to say that the martyrs for freedom gave their lives so that a new dictatorship might replace the old one, so that a new repression might replace the old one.

In any case, I shall repeat again what I said 2 days ago: Beginning on 21 January, salaries and wages will only be paid for work. This is quite justified both according to religious law and to common law.

In order to learn the views of His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni, the head of the Regency Council has gone to Paris. He is to brief his eminence on the government's policy and benefit from his ideas. I believe this meeting will prove useful and beneficial to the Iranian people. A major part of His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni's views and wishes has already been realized; the remaining part of his views are also under consideration within the framework of the constitution, which has an unbreakable bond with the Islamic world.

Dear compatriots, you must remember that my colleagues and I have always demanded the correct implementation of the constitution. Having been trained in the school of the great political leader, Dr Mosaddeq, I shall adhere to everything I have said; the force of circumstances cannot shake the foundation of my beliefs and cause doubt.

Regardless of individual acts and local disputes, the army will always remain at the disposal of the government. I will repeat this point once again: The Iranian Army is the guardian of the country's stability and survival; it is not isolated from the people, nor are the people isolated from it.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity to express my own and the government's sympathy to the Iranian people on the occasion of the 40th day following the martyrdom of Husayn.

PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATIONS IN MESHGIN SHAHR, MIANEH

LD181204 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Jan 79 LD

[Text] According to our correspondent's reports from the provinces, peaceful demonstrations were held in Meshgin Shahr and Mianen today. A group of people also gathered inside the Tabriz University campus today and listened to speeches by a number of students and religious leaders.

AYATOLLAH SHARI'AT-MADARI CALLS FOR ORDER IN MARCHES

LD181950 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The following statement was issued today by His Great Eminence Seyyed Kazem Shari'at-Madari, the illustrious Shi'ite religious authority:

I hereby wish to bring to the attention of the honorable Iranian nation the fact that, as a result of the incitement of well-known agents, certain incidents unexpectedly took place in the city of Ahvaz recently, and the outcome of these incidents disturbs us. The esteemed ulema of Ahvas have informed us that, without provocation, men wielding clubs attacked citizens of that city, and subsequently the security forces opened fire. A number of people were killed and wounded as a result, and a large number of men and women, and even the city's ulema, were besieged in the Great Huseyniyeh Monastery. Such incidents have been repeated in other parts of the country.

Although experience throughout the world has proved that violence, assault and battery, and murder by mercenaries will never stop a nation from waging its struggle but rather exacerbate an already critical situation, such iniquitous actions still have not been renounced. According to the information available to us, similar actions have occured in Dezful, Andimeshk, Arak and other cities--actions that have also aroused anxiety.

Therefore, the entire honorable Iranian nation is advised to preserve the utmost dignity during tomorrow's marches to mark the 40th day following the martyrdom of Imam Husayn--peace be upon him. The people should undertake stringent measures to maintain order and prevent unknown agents from misusing their participation in such marches to obtain a pretext for killing. They should confront any action that might give people on the other side a pretext for interfering with the people's march or committing murder.

The people should also show respect for their brothers in the army and refrain from arson and destruction. Furthermore, the Muslim army of Iran is emphatically advised to carefully avoid harming or disturbing the people and to do its best to demonstrate the understanding that exists between the nation and its armed forces.

The responsible authorities and those in charge should know that in the event that an incident takes place or actions such as those described continue, they will be directly responsible for the results and answerable to God and the people's court.

18 January 1979. [signed] Seyyed Kazem Shari'at-Madari.

TEHRAN GOVERNOR WARNS OF TROUBLE DURING 19 JAN MARCH

LD181900 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The military governorate of Tehran and suburbs issued its 31st statement, as follows:

Esteemed citizens of the capital city: According to a government decision, a march by a number of citizens is to take place tomorrow, Friday, 19 January, on the occasion of the 40th day after the martyrdom of Imam Husayn. The march is to be held, with strict observance of order and refraining from any action which might cause provocation or create unrest and disturbance, along predetermined routes.

According to reports received by the military governorate of Tehran and suburbs, a number of opportunists and mercenaries, who find it in their interests to create disturbance, chaos and dissension between the various classes of people and the army, are planning to infiltrate the marchers' ranks. By chanting antinational slogans and insulting the officials and officers of the imperial armed forces they are planning to turn the atmosphere of the march into one of tension, chaos and turmoil, and thus achieve their destructive and antinational goals by creating clashes between the people and the security forces.

Considering its holy duty of establishing public order and peace, safeguarding the lives and property of the dear compatriots as well as unmasking the antinational plots, the military governorate of Tehran and suburbs is alerting you to the danger brought about by the infiltration of opportunist and subversive elements.

We hope that, as approved by the government, all those participating in the march will observe order and peace and, while refraining from any antinational demonstrations contrary to the constitution, will object to subversive elements joining them. We hope that the participants will not allow a number of subversive elements achieve their diabolical goals. goals.

Needless to say, the officers of the military governorate of Tehran and suburbs will be alert to the situation and will severely crush any disturbance and actions against public order or attack and assault on the sensitive and vital points of the capital city, government ministries, army organizations, gendarmerie and the police department, as their safeguarding and security merit special priority.

From the military governor of Tehran and suburbs, General Mehdi Rahimi.

AFP REPORTS CLASHES RESULT IN DOZENS DEAD

TA181640 Paris AFP in English 1638 GMT 18 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Tehran, 18 Jan (AFP)--Dozens of dead were reported in Iran today as pro- and anti-shah demonstrators clashed on the streets 48 hours after the head of state left the country. Armed elements intervened in celebrations marking the shah's departure, the reports said. Figures reaching here from official and unofficial sources said dozens of people were killed in Ahvaz, the provincial capital of Khuzestan, western Iran, and at Arak, an industrial center southwest of the capital. Several dead were reported at Dezful, western Iran.

National newspapers, KEYHAN and ETTELA'AT, wrote that tanks had systematically "mown down" anti-shah demonstrators and that shops and cars displaying portraits of exile Shi'ite Muslim leader Ayatollah Khomeyni were attacked with clubs.

In a telephone call to AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE here, a group calling itself the "Shah and Homeland Suicide Commando" said it had decided to "pay back the anti-shah forces" for destroying statues, effigies and portraits of the emperor. KEYHAN reported that a thousand-strong crowd armed with clubs yesterday smashed the windows of all shops and cars bearing portraits of Ayatollah Khomeyni.

Meanwhile, opposition religious chiefs have called a mass demonstration tomorrow. After a similar call in December, an estimated 2 million people took to the streets shouting slogans including "Death to the shah." This unprecedented display precipitated the shah's departure and was seen by many as a vote in favor of Ayatollah Khomeyni, who has no date yet fixed to return to Iran.

ONE DEAD, TWO WOUNDED AS BORDER GUARDS FIGHT OFF KURDS

LD182130 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 18 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The Public Relations Office of the chief of the Supreme Commander's Staff announced this afternoon that the battle between Iranian border guards and members of Jalal Talebani's Kurdish insurgents lasted 7 hours, resulting in the death of one Iranian soldier and injuries to two others. All the insurgent forces have been driven off to the other side of the border.

The border defenders also managed to free the captured Iranian soldiers and bring them back.

AFP: AIRMEN AT SHAHROKHI AIRBASE ON HUNGER STRIKE

TA191022 Paris AFP in English 0959 GMT 19 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Tehran, Jan 19 (AFP)--Airmen at one of Iran's biggest bases have gone on a hunger strike after a dispute with officers, informed sources said today.

Unconfirmed opposition reports said the dispute stemmed from an order the day after the shah left, to start training for possible (?bombing of cities). The airmen reportedly refused and the base, in the south of the country, was cordoned off.

Military sources here confirmed today that there had been a "certain tension" on the Shahrokhi base, but declined to give details.

NATIONAL RADIO, TV APOLOGIZES FOR OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS

LD181338 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Dear listeners: National Iranian Radio and Television, while apologizing to listeners and viewers, would like to inform you that any breaks in transmission on the radio and television are due to power cuts and the necessary time lapse involved before connection can be made to emergency generators. We hereby apologize for the radio's occasional breaks in modulation, difficulties experienced in audio or in visual transmission and periodic breaks in television programs.

New Managing Director

LD181812 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The National Iranian Radio and Television Organization at its general meeting elected Mr Masud Barzin as its new managing director.

TEHRAN GOVERNORATE TO ISSUE NEW CURFEW PERMITS

LD191010 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 19 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Communique No 30 of the military governorate of Tehran and suburbs was published yesterday, as follows:

As of 24 January 1979, the cards allowing freedom of movement during curfew hours, placed at the disposal of officials and organizations requiring them, will be invalid. Therefore representatives of all the organizations involved are hereby requested to come to the headquarters of the military governorate of Tehran and suburbs in Abbasabad on 19 January, bringing with them a list of names, several photographs and their old passes for renewal.

[Signed] The military governor of Tehran and suburbs, Lt Gen Mehdi Rahim.

REGENCY COUNCIL'S TEHRANI ARRIVES IN PARIS

TA181757 Paris AFP in English 1749 GMT 18 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Paris, 18 Jan (AFP)--Seyyed Jamaleddin Tehrani, head of Iran's Regency Council, arrived here from Tehran today and said he might meet for talks with exiled religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni.

(Iranian Premier Shahpur Bakhtiar confirmed on national radio in Tehran today that Mr Tehrani's mission in Paris was to hold discussions with the ayatollah.)

The Regency Council leader told reporters here he would possibly contact Ayatollah Khomeyni on return from his two-day visit to Brussels where he is due to arrive tomorrow.

But he said he had no mandate from the council to meet the Muslim leader who lives at Neauphle-le-Chateau west of here. "He is a religious leader much respected in Iran and I am one of his friends," Mr Tehrani said.

Sources said the Iran's ambassador in France arrived at Roissy Airport incognito to welcome Mr Tehrani.

KHOMEYNI SETS CONDITION FOR MEETING TEHRANI

LD181636 Paris Domestic Service in French 1600 GMT 18 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Ayatollah Khomeyni is becoming staunchor and staunchor: He has just made it known that he does not envisage meeting the emissary of the Regency Council who is on his way to Paris unless the emissary is coming to present his resignation as well as that of his council. Ayatollah Khomeyni wants the few structures set up before the departure of the shah to fade away by themselves; he hopes that the government of Mr Bakhtiar will resign within 8 days. And he will announce the composition of an Islamic Revolutionary Council tomorrow; two committees have already been formed: one to coordinate the strikes in Iran, and the other to supervise the embassy in Washington and protect the confidential documents there.

FRENCH PAPERS SAY KHOMEYNI'S DEPARTURE FOR IRAN 'IMMINENT'

LD191028 Paris Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 19 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpt] According to some French papers, the departure of the Ayatollah Khomeyni for Iran is reported to be imminent. May I remind you that yesterday the ayatollah virtually slammed the door in the face of the Bakhtiar government's emissary who came to France to try to sort things out.

TUDEH CALLS FOR 'UNITED FRONT FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION'

LD181515 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 15 Jan 79 p 9 LD

[Unattributed report: "Shah Expected To Leave This Week"]

[Excerpt] The communist Tudeh Party has just issued a communique calling on "all the leaders of Iran's national liberation movement, more particularly Ayatollah Khomeyni and Ayatollah Taleqani, Dr Sanjabi (National Front leader) and the other religious and political currents which have suffered the regime's massacres, to use all their strength, their influence and their credibility to set up a united front for the national liberation of Iran."

"This front," the communique continues, "will have the task of directing all the struggle against the shah and the imperialists and, while using the ordinary methods of political struggle, at the same time preparing and directing the people's armed struggle against the forces of the present regime."

The Tudeh Party Central Committee also appeals to "officers and NCO's, soldiers and patriots to participate actively in this historic fight." "It is up to you," the appeal says, "to create secret cells and sections of the 'united front for the national liberation of Iran' in all the barracks, to play an active role in them, to train armed sections and to supply weapons."

NATIONAL VOICE OF IRAN SCORES U.S. INTERVENTION, BAKHTIAR

TA182128 [Editorial Report TA] National Voice of Iran [Clandestine] in Azerbaijani to Iran at 1745 GMT on 17 January carries a commentary which eulogizes the job exhibited by the "fighting Iranian people" in the country's "streets and squares and bazaars" in the aftermath of the shah's departure from Iran. It says people gave roses to soldiers, who placed them in the barrels of their guns, and who were happy about the situation.

The commentary then condemns the "shah's despotic regime" and praises the heroism of the people "who rose and fought against the shah's despotic rule. A people who were regarded as undeserving of freedom and sovereignty revolted and, following a series of tough and bloody struggles, expelled him from the country." "Now that his despotic rule has come to an end, the shah will go to the United States to kiss Carter's feet."

After declaring that "rejecting the shah's bloodthirsty regime and expelling U.S. imperialism from the country are the chief aims of the Iranian nation's gigantic struggle," the commentary cites a statement by National Front leader Sanjabi to the effect that "the shah's expulsion from the country was one of the Iranian nation's revolutionary demands as a first step toward restoring national power and sovereignty."

The commentary goes on to say that the struggle will continue until all imperialists are driven out of the country. "Now that the shah has gone, it is the turn of the Americans. U.S. imperialism should be kicked out of the country and go to hell. Our country's people are conscious of the fundamental aims of their sacred struggle. The National Voice of Iran broadcasters sincerely congratulate our noble compatriots on their first victory in their fight and struggle--the victory of expelling the shah from the country. And we are sure that our country's heroic and brave sons will continue their struggle and will open the path to the creation of a national and democratic government by putting an end to the shah's bloodthirsty imperial system."

The radio then carries a second commentary scoring Bakhtiar. It notes: "Within a short time, Bakhtiar has shown his real face and his actual mission." "In order to please his American masters and to mislead the public, he spoke about the 'smell of communism' in his speech in the Majlis when submitting his government's program." No one can believe Bakhtiar's words, which are inspired by Pentagon and CIA reports. "The people are fully aware of the Bakhtiar government's real countenance and aim."

The commentary says: "A report was prepared by U.S. and Israeli advisers and the shah's security officials which claimed that demonstrations being held and the struggle being waged by millions of Iranians are the result of provocations by international communism. All such reports are lies. All the allegations about the existence of a communist threat are intended to please Bakhtiar's American masters." Although even the most conservative American newspapers have admitted that the shah's regime is meeting with the nation's mass resistance, "Bakhtiar is doing all he can to clear the shah--the executioner and the protector of oil cartels. Bakhtiar is acting to cover up for the shah and for the open U.S. military and political intervention in our internal affairs."

The commentary also scores Bakhtiar for having "deliberately ignored the presence of General Huyser in Iran, although the U.S. press and even Vance himself have stated that he was sent to Iran on a special mission." The commentary also notes that Bakhtiar chose to ignore the presence of "U.S. military personnel in Iran and U S. naval vessels near the Iranian shores."

NVOI CALLS FOR UNITY OF ACTION, MILITARY COOPERATION

TA182112 [Editorial Report TA] National Voice of Iran [Clandestine] in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 18 January carries two commentaries. The central theme of the first commentary is unclear, but the unidentified commentator is heard advocating unity of action of all the national and nationalistic forces.

The commentator says the revolutionary councils and organizations, the people in the universities and bazaars, and all segments of Iran must join hands "in order to destroy the armed plot of the enemies of the Iranian revolution and the guardians of the shah's regime." The commentary continues with observations about "the first lesson of every revolution."

The focus of the second commentary appears to be the role and duty of the military in the Iranian revolution. It says: "The people have taken these, their children, into their arms, given them bouquets of flowers and congratulated them. This itself is a demonstration of the truth that the army is a part of the people and must (?stand) beside the people. The brotherhood of (?the people) with the soldiers" is vital. "The army is a part of the people." "The people must treat with kindness their (?children) who are wearing the sacred military uniform. The soldiers must not fire on their mothers, brothers, sisters and fathers."

AFGHANISTAN

AMIN READS DECREE GRANTING LAND TO PEASANTS

LD182110 Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Summary] The 14th anniversary of the People's Democratic Party's First Congress was celebrated yesterday at meetings and conferences throughout the country. A grand meeting marking the occasion held by the party committee of Kabul Province at Kabul Mendareh [movie house] was attended by Hafizollah Amin, secretary of the People's Democratic Party [PDP] Central Committee, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs; Dr Shah Wali, secretary of the PDP Central Committee, minister of public health and acting minister of planning; members of the PDP Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council and Council of Ministers, and of the Provincial PDP Committee; the chairman and leadership of the Khalqi youth and women's organization; senior officials of the armed forces; high-ranking government officials and ambassadors of friendly countries.

Hafizollah Amin, on the instructions of the great leader of the people of Afghanistan, Nur Mohammad Taraki, read the decree issued by the Revolutionary Council concerning the distribution of the land among deserving peasants.

"I am happy, in accordance with the provisions of Article 22 of Decree No 8 of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, concerning land, and in accordance with the government's program of agrarian reforms, I am issuing the decree on the allotment of land free of cost to the dear landless peasants employed on (?holdings) in the warm and temperate provinces such as Nangarhar, Laghman, [name indistinct], Farah, Neemroze, Helmand, Qandahar, Uruzgan and Zabul, which must be implemented today, 1 January 1978, and thus a great stage is being passed for the attainment of the centuries-long aspirations of the toiling people of Afghanistan and years-old aspirations of the PDP. Fourteen years ago, at the First Congress of the PDP, this aspiration of the toilers came to the fore and now, on the 14th anniversary of this congress and the success of the great SOWR Revolution, this aspiration is being achieved. While offering my heartfelt congratulations to all my toiling and beloved compatriots on this great and significant step, I am aware that all toiling peasants, agricultural workers and poor (?turchis) will (?go forth) with courage, a high spirit and revolutionary order and discipline, for their legitimate interests, for the implementation of democratic agrarian reforms.

"All those landholders who possess more than 30 jaribs [4 jaribs equal approximately 1 acre] of first-class land are bound to give their surplus land to the responsible authorities of the government, in accordance with the regulations, and with patriotic zeal, to their country's reconstruction. They should make do with 30 jaribs of land and take practical and positive part in this great revolutionary work. All organs concerned of the government have been fully instructed to grant [word indistinct] all toiling peasants, agricultural workers and poor (?turchis) in the successful implementation of this revolutionary measure, so that all of our toiling and patriotic people may gain the honor of participating and perfecting the success of the great Sowr Revolution. Nur Mohammad Taraki, president of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan."

INDIA

GOVERNMENT UNINFORMED OF IRANIAN ENVOY RECALL

BK181607 Hong Kong AFP in English 1436 GMT 18 Jan 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, Jan 18 (AFP)--The Indian Government has no information about the reported recall of the Iranian ambassador in New Delhi, Gholam Reza Tajabakhsh, official sources said here today.

The sources were commenting on a report from Tehran quoting Iran's [words indistinct] which on Wednesday said that Iran's ambassadors to seven countries, including India, had been sacked. No communication has been received by the government to this effect from the Iranian Government or the Iranian Embassy here, the sources added.

VAJPAYEE ACCUSES GANDHI OF SPREADING VIOLENCE

BK190316 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 Jan 79 BK

[Text] Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee has accused Congress-I President Mrs Indira Gandhi of spreading violence. Addressing a public meeting at Bagli, a Tehsil [district] town near Indore, Mr Vajpayee said she is inciting her partymen to create chaos and spread violence in the country. Referring to Mrs Gandhi's expulsion from parliament, Mr Vajpayee said the punishment awarded by the Lok Sabha was necessary so that no prime minister in future will dare attempt to commit contempt of parliament to save his or her son's skin.

SOLUTION TO JANATA PARTY CONFLICT IN SIGHT

BK181521 Calcutta ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA in Bengali 17 Jan 79 p 1 BK

[By Special Correspondent]

[Excerpts] The internal conflict in the Janata Party is perhaps coming to an end. This is evident from the progress made by S.M. Joshi's [president of the Maharashtra unit of the Janata Party] unity efforts. The probable final solution to the problem lies in the appointment of two deputy prime ministers.

Joshi held several rounds of talks with Charan Singh and later told newsmen that Charan Singh might agree to the creation of two deputy prime ministerial positions. At one time, he totally discarded such a proposal.

However, Raj Narain [former health minister] is the only obstacle in the way to finding a solution to this difficult problem. It was learned from reliable sources that Charan Singh might not press immediately for the inclusion of Raj Narain into the ministry even though some extreme elements in his group are constantly pressing for it. Moreover, it seems that Charan Singh is happy over the indications on Raj Narain he received from the intimate circles of the prime minister. It said that if Raj Narain behaves in a restrained manner from now on, his inclusion into the Council of Ministers will be considered after a few months.

When the above proposals are accepted by all concerned, the prime minister might reallocate the portfolios of the central Council of Ministers, where Charan Singh and Jagjivan Ram will be the two deputy prime ministers.

PAKISTAN

KHOMEYNI'S EMISSARIES IN PAKISTAN TO CONVEY MESSAGE

BK190220 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 19 Jan 79 BK

[Text] According to the ASSOCIATED PRESS of Pakistan, two emissaries of Iran's religious leader, Ayatollah Khomeyni, have come to Pakistan to convey a message to the founder of the Jammat-i-Islam Party, Maulana Abdul Ail Maududi. Their names are Dr (Kamal) and (Engineer Mohammad).

20,000 AFGHAN REFUGEES SETTLE IN PAKISTAN

BK181729 Hong Kong AFP in English 1704 GMT 18 Jan 79 OW

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, 18 Jan (AFP)--The number of Afghan refugees in Pakistan has reached 20,000 since the pro-communist takeover in their homeland last April, well-informed sources said today.

Most have reportedly sought shelter in Pakistan's Northwest Frontier Province or in camps set up by militant Afghan Muslims who oppose the regime of Afghan President Nur Mohammad Taraki.

Sources said that 7,000 to 8,000 refugees were in Baluchistan Province which borders Afghanistan and Iran.

Pakistan's government has so far made no public comment on the refugee influx, but observers here said it may be forced to seek help from foreign welfare groups or friendly governments if the problem escalates.

Afghan authorities earlier this week denied reports of fighting in Afghanistan, describing as "lies" stories given to journalists by Afghan refugees here. But guerrilla groups reportedly said their men were continuing to fight forces of the Afghan regime and have "liberated" parts of northeastern Kunar Province.

Efforts by the guerrillas' supporters here to win material help from the Pakistan Government have so far failed, although an Afghan request for the repatriation of refugees had recently been turned down "on humanitarian grounds," informed sources said.

Pakistani newspapers have given prominence to communiques by guerrilla groups, some of which put casualties inflicted on Afghan troops into the hundreds. The allegations were denied by the Afghan regime, but it maintains complete silence on the refugee issue.

Kabul radio monitored here last night quoted President Nur Mohammad Taraki as saying that Afghanistan wanted good relations with Pakistan, Iran and China, but it hoped that these countries would not interfere in its internal affairs.

He said he assured the outgoing Pakistani ambassador that no shots would be fired towards Pakistan from Afghan soil.

BRIEFS

INDIAN-CANADIAN COMMISSION--India and Canada have agreed to explore possibilities of setting up a joint commission to increase mutual trade and cooperation. The agreement was reached in New Delhi on 9 January between the union commerce minister, Mr Mohan Dharia, and the Canadian minister for national revenue, Mr A.C. Abbott. During their talks, Mr Dharia was of the view that the two countries may also collaborate on setting up joint ventures. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 9 Jan 79 BK]